MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 MAY 1981

Israel

Begin Speech--In a speech to the Knesset, relayed live by Jerusalem radio, Prime Minister Menahem Begin said that after Syria moved three SAM-6 missile batteries into Lebanon, he ordered the chief of staff to destroy them on 30 April but bad weather forced postponement of the operation until the next day. Begin said that the next day, however, he agreed to a U.S. request that Israel allow time to exhaust political moves but initially granted a respite only until 4 May. In the meantime, Syria introduced more missiles, Begin said, whereupon Israel agreed to grant the United States additional time to try diplomatic means. Divulging some of the contents of his message to President Ronald Reagan, Begin said that because of the dangers of further delay, Israel would wait only a "relatively short period of time." Syria now has five SAM-6 batteries in Lebanon with four more on the Syrian-Lebanese border, and it has also deployed two SAM-2 and two SAM-3 batteries on the border, he revealed. Libyan units are also in Lebanon, Begin claimed, operating a SAM-9 battery.

Begin went on to make a personal appeal to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to let the Jews in Syria leave their "ghetto" and to pull back from the brink of "the abyss" and remove the Syrian missiles from Lebanon, thereby restoring the status quo ante. If this appeal is not heeded, Begin added, Israel will have to look to its "national security interests." Israel will under no circumstances tolerate the presence of the Syrian missiles and the takeover of mount Sannin, he said, since anyone who controls the mountain and Lebanese airspace would take over the whole of Lebanon and threaten Israel's existence.

Begin also reiterated that Israel's action against Syrian helicopters had saved the Lebanese Christian community from a "total moral breakdown" that would have allowed the Syrians to take over all of northern Lebanon and then move south. Noting that his government has continued and stepped up a policy established by the government of former Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin of providing military assistance to the Lebanese Christians, Begin reaffirmed Israel's moral commitment to save them from annihilation. He said there is a "national consensus" in Israel that if diplomacy fails, Israel should use military measures to neutralize the Syrian missiles.

Regarding Israel's relations with the United States, Begin said the two countries are in a "permanent alliance." He said they agree that Syria is no longer a peacekeeping and stabilizing force in Lebanon, support active opposition to "terrorist organizations" and are opposed to the expansion of Soviet imperialism in the Middle East. However, despite the U.S. administration's friendliness toward Israel, Begin went on, the U.S. decision to sell additional fuel pods for F-15's and supply AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia has caused a problem. Noting that the Saudis have described Israel, not the Soviet Union, as the real danger in the Middle East, Begin said Saudi Arabia could use long-range F-15's against Israel while Israel would not feel able to shoot down AWACS aircraft carrying U.S. personnel.

Peres Speech--Replying to Begin, Alignment leader Shim'on Peres told the Knesset that there is no consensus in Israel regarding policy toward Lebanon, and he criticized Begin for creating false impressions. He also said in his speech, broadcast live by Jerusalem radio, that Israel must exhaust all diplomatic means to make it clear to the Syrians that it does not accept the presence of their missile bases in the Al-Biqa' valley. He revealed that Begin had not consulted the opposition leaders before deciding to down Syrian helicopters and ordering the attack on the SAM missiles on 30 April. Such security matters should be coordinated between government and opposition he said, through a "prior, balanced and responsible dialogue."

Habib Mission

Habib, Begin Meeting--During a 90-minute meeting in Jerusalem on 11 May, Prime Minister Begin and U.S. special envoy Philip Habib discussed the results of his talks in Beirut and Damascus on the Lebanese crisis, Jerusalem radio reported. It added that they refused to divulge the contents of their talk to reporters but said they had agreed to meet again.

Palestinian Commentary--An unattributed commentary broadcast by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio charged that the U.S. special envoy's mission to the Middle East chiefly serves the objectives of the Israelis and the Lebanese isolationist forces. U.S. actions in the Middle East, it charged, are invariably hostile to Palestinian objectives, and the envoy has come to the area now only because the deployment of Syrian antiaircraft missiles in Lebanon has prevented Israel from attacking Palestinians and members of the Lebanese National Movement, which the United States had given it permission to do.

Lebanon

Military Situation--Voice of Lebanon reported that Israeli planes overflying Al-Biqa' valley drew SAM fire but that no planes were hit. It also reported that 40 Syrian tanks have entered Lebanon through Al-Masna'. Monitored Syrian media did not mention either of these reports. According to Beirut radio, the situation in Beirut remains tense despite a cease-fire. Earlier reports from this radio had mentioned sporadic machinegun fire along the traditional contact lines in the capital and its southern suburbs following a day of increased shelling.

Other Developments--Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam has postponed his visit to Lebanon, according to Beirut radio, because of his heavy work schedule. Beirut radio reported that President Ilyas Sarkis held separate meetings with Arab Deterrent Forces Commander Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib and Director General of the Internal Security Forces Maj Gen Ahmad al-Haj. Cairo radio reported that in a statement to the People's Assembly, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali affirmed that Egypt is holding contacts with the Lebanese and Palestinians as well as with international parties to stop the escalation of the situation in Lebanon. He added that Egypt has invited the Arab states concerned to hold a meeting on the problem.

Syria

Voice of Lebanon reported the arrival of the Soviet Army chief of staff in Damascus. According to the radio, he met with his Syrian counterpart, Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi, and discussed the drawing up of a joint military plan to "confront the developments" arising from the missile crisis between Syria and Israel and also inspected the SAM bases. Voice of Lebanon also reported that SAM batteries have been installed in the Latakia-Tartus coastal area to thwart any air strikes coming from the north. Monitored Damascus media did not mention these reports. Damascus Radio did report that the Higher Civil Defense Council met under Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm to discuss civil defense programs and ways to implement them.

PLO-Iraq

Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio reported that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat met in Baghdad with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and other top officials to discuss the situation in Lebanon. During the meeting, the radio said, Husayn stressed the importance of solidarity with the Palestinian resistance movement.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VOP REPORTS BEGIN'S 11 MAY KNESSET STATEMENT

JN111753 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] At the end of the Knesset session this evening, the enemy radio broadcast the Begin government's statement on the current crisis. The statement says: The Israeli Government is not prepared to go back on its request to the effect that the Syrian missiles be removed from Lebanon and also that the Arab Deterrent Forces be withdrawn from the Sannin heights.

The Israeli prime minister added a new dimension to the current crisis when he made what he called two calls to President Hafiz al-Asad. In one call he asked President al-Asad to allow the Syrian Jews to emerge into what he called freedom. He also called for returning Lebanon to the condition that prevailed before the recent crisis. Observers believe that Begin's statements have clearly defined the conditions of the Israel stand which will be conveyed to Philip Habib.

During the Knesset session Begin explained what he called Israel's security interest in the withdrawal of the missiles and the control of the deterrent forces in Sannin. He said that he who controls Sannin and Lebanon's airspace is in control of all Lebanon and threatens Israel's security, and this makes war inevitable, as Begin put it. Begin said that if the diplomatic efforts fail, resorting to military conditions will then be the only option.

He said that the U.S. administration meets with Israel on three points: 1) Syria's mission in Lebanon is no longer aimed at establishing peace and that its forces are no longer a factor for restoring stability, as terrorist Begin put it; 2) The U.S. and Israeli stands are identical on the PLO; and 3) Confronting the Soviet Union, particularly in the Middle East area.

VOP SAYS ALLEN ADMITS U.S. LEBANON RESPONSIBILITY

JN111810 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 11 May 81

[11 May statement by "responsible information source in the Palestinian revolution"--read by announcer]

[Text] The statements made yesterday by Richard Allen, U.S. national security adviser, on Lebanon, the situation in the region and the U.S. President's concept of the PLO are shortsighted statements which affirm that like all previous U.S. administrations, the present U.S. administration is hostile to our Palestinian people and Arab nation. Indeed, perhaps this administration is the worst and most hostile of these administrations.

The new U.S. administration, which describes the PLO as terrorist, finds nothing to say about the Zionist terrorism which daily liquidates scores of victims in southern Lebanon; nor does this administration find anything to say about the fascist Phalangist's random shelling, which indiscriminately kills the innocent, nor sees, as it looks around it, its planes, rockets and military machines spreading destruction in the Palestinian camps and Lebanese villages. Thus, this administration resorts, through the national security adviser, to talking about Palestinian terrorism carried out by the PLO. Where is this terrorism and against whom is it directed?

It seems that the current U.S. administration is determined to be the enemy of the Palestinians and the Arabs. It seems that this administration is going even farther than the other administrations in its hostility. It also seems--and this is most important and tragic--that the current administration is still not convinced that without the Palestinian people and its sole legitimate representative--the PLO--there will be no peace, security and stability, not to mention a solution, in the region.

The Palestinian people represent the factor without which the equation cannot be formulated. Otherwise, Israel, its agents and the U.S. agents in the region would have invaded the Palestinian presence in the south and Lebanon in general long ago.

Something else remains to be said, namely, that Mr Allen candidly admitted that the United States is behind the situation in Lebanon, adding that while it is clear that the situation in Lebanon was not created by the present administration, it still has to deal with it. Such candor by the national security adviser helps to straighten things out, particularly for those who are still unsure that the United States is the major ugly enemy of the Arab nation from the ocean to the Gulf.

HABIB MISSION SAID TO SERVE 'ZIONIST OBJECTIVES'

JN112031 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1635 GMT 11 May 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] As U.S. Envoy Philip Habib moves, we ask: Why did the United States move now and not when southern Lebanon was subjected to the ugliest war of annihilation and destruction by the Zionist enemy since World War II? Undoubtedly, the answer lies in all minds, namely, that the deployment of the Syrian antiaircraft missiles in the Al-Biqa' area and the teaching of a lesson to the isolationists during the past few weeks have prevented the implementation of the green lights given by the United States to the Zionist entity and the isolationist forces to continue to strike at the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese National Movement because these constitute, alongside fraternal Syria, the stronghold of confrontation and the mainstay of Arab struggle against the Camp David schemes and the steps to impose capitulation on our Arab nation. Thus, our question needs no more in reply than what we have said. Every Arab nationalist, regardless of his position, is now aware that every U.S. move in the area can never be neutral, as it claims. Rather, all such moves are hostile to our nation's objectives and its steadfast forces. Thus, Philip Habib came to the area to threaten and warn, though he masqueraded all this with silk gloves or in decorated words of protocol whose outward bearing is made of honey but whose essence is made of poison and hostility.

Under the pretext of not exploding the situation in the area, Philip Habib demands the withdrawal of the antiaircraft missiles so that Israel will not be provoked. The U.S. envoy is advocating the isolationist front's demands, which have assumed the garb of legality, this front which is still categorically refusing to adopt a clear-cut stand on severing relations with Israel.

Looking at the enemy leaders' statements on Philip Habib's mission and the objectives this mission will achieve and on the information leaked about Philip Habib's advice, which comes in the form of demands and instructions, all these affirm to us that the U.S. presidential envoy's mission is chiefly in the service of the Zionist enemy's objectives and those of the isolationist forces in all of Lebanon. Hence, the enemy leaders pin hopes on the success of Philip Habib's mission. Otherwise they will threaten us as a Palestinian revolution and as a nationalist movement and will warn Syria about terrible things whose consequences will be grave. This explains the integration of Begin's threats and the U.S. envoy's demands. Each supports the other and the objectives are one. However, fraternal Syria has decisively declared that he who wants to achieve understanding with Syria should leave his stick at home.

The Palestinian revolution and the National Movement are used to enemy threats. They have victoriously confronted all the Zionist attempts and attacks, which came after the United States had given its green light to strike at those who are disrupting the U.S. peace in the area and those obstructing the implementation of the Camp David plan.

We know well the goals and designs of Philip Habib's mission. We have no doubt that every patriotic Arab also knows these goals and designs and knows the sole way to confront and wreck them. Moreover, we can say that the U.S. desire has never been and will not be a fate. Our masses' wish and that of our nationalist and steadfast forces is the sole fate.

LEBANESE NATIONAL MOVEMENT REJECTS USE OF ARMY

NC081456 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1135 GMT 8 May 81

[7 May statement issued by the Lebanese National Movement following a meeting of its Executive Committee]

[Text] Following the return of its delegation from Damascus, the Executive Committee of the Central Political Council of the national and progressive forces in Lebanon held a session during which it discussed the developments of the general political situation in the country and reached the following conclusions:

1. The meeting of the National Movement's delegation with Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus on the morning of Thursday, 7 May 1981, was an important occasion.

2. On this occasion the National Movement reaffirms its adherence to the stance it expressed during the consultations held at the presidential palace. It is a stance of reacting in full positiveness with the official joint Lebanese-Syrian initiative. This stance was crystallized in the memorandum that the National Movement had submitted under the title "For the Sake of a Real National Accord and of a Democratic Reform of the Political System in Lebanon." There is no alternative to the national accord if the aim is actually to save Lebanon. It is no exaggeration to say that without the determination of all parties to exert this joint rescue effort, Lebanon will cease to exist and its sons will, naturally, be the first to be harmed by the calamity of its loss. However, this harm will also constitute a great danger to the national fate of all Arabs.

3. If several hurdles are now obstructing the march of accord, then this does not exempt the government from its responsibility nor does it justify any retreat by it on the political level. In this respect the National Movement warns the authority, represented by the president of the republic and the government, against again contemplating partial measures and solutions as an approach for tackling the Lebanese crisis. It has often been proved at a more than one fateful juncture through which the country has passed that security is a political issue and that unless a real agreement is reached on the basic national prerequisites of the existence of Lebanon, then it would be futile to expect the success of any partial security solutions. The only object of the solutions that are now under discussion is actually to strengthen and fortify some of the partitionist positions and carry out hostile violations in the national areas with the aim of implementing the plan providing for the [word indistinct] domination of all Lebanon.

4. The National Movement considers it a duty to frankly and clearly declare that it rejects the deployment of the army, in its present structure, as a tool to maintain security in any Lebanese area. We reject that it should take over the security of Zahlah, that it be stationed on the Sannin heights or that it be deployed on roads and at crossing points. We also reject that it should take over the airport of any vital department. The National Movement bases its rejection on tangible experiences that prove that the army was turned in all areas and on all occasions when it was deployed into a fence protecting the isolationist ghetto and constituted a combat striking force on the side of the Phalangist militias.

This is how the army behaved in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and on the mountain, and this is how it will behave in every other position handed over to it. Therefore, the National Movement deems it a right to demand the withdrawal of the army from all the contact lines in order that its presence will not continue to constitute a factor for military escalation and an explosion of the security situation.

The National Movement asserts that its rejection of the deployment of the army in any security task will continue until it is restructured on a national basis that will finally liberate it from factional domination and all forms of sectarian discrimination and ensure its mobilization in the sound national direction--the confrontation of the Zionist enemy on the border and the safeguarding of the country's domestic unity.

5. The National Movement's refusal for the army, in its present structure, to carry out any security role does not mean that the movement does not support the efforts to achieve a relaxation in the security situation in parallel with the efforts to achieve national accord. On the contrary, the National Movement calls for settling the odd situation in Zahlah on the basis of implementing the agreement that was reached with the command of the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] in Al-Biqa', but which the Phalangist party later dodged in disregard of the security of the people of Zahlah and their vital interests.

The movement also calls for consolidating the cease-fire in all places and for opening the airport, all roads and crossing points on the basis of enabling the ADF to carry out their security role in full and to strengthen the internal security forces in a manner that would enable them to continuously carry out vital security tasks.

6. Finally, the National Movement does not miss the opportunity to note the danger of the continuing military and political aggression which the Israeli-U.S. alliance is committing against Lebanon as well as the role of this alliance in obstructing the chances for national accord by encouraging some local forces to adopt adventurous stands on the military and political levels.

The National Movement reasserts its determination to resist this role, together with all the forces that want Lebanon to remain a unified Arab country for all its sons, by depending on the Lebanese-Palestinian-Syrian national alliance, an alliance that constitutes the bulwark of the firm confrontation with the isolationist plan, which is backed by Israel and approved by the United States.

ARAB MINISTERS EXPECTED TO MEET AT PLO BEHEST

LD111528 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1345 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Damascus, 11 May (KUNA)--The PLO said today that Arab foreign ministers may meet shortly in response to the PLO's invitation to discuss the bases of confronting any Israeli assault against Syria and the Palestinian resistance movement in light of the deteriorating situation in Lebanon. 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, the offical PLO spokesman, told KUNA that the PLO is currently carrying out an "intensive Arab activity aimed at convening an Arab meeting at foreign ministerial level." He said that this meeting, "which appears to be close at hand, will discuss the bases on which to confront the expected Israeli aggression against Lebanon which seeks to strike at the Palestinian revolution, Syria and the Lebanese National Movement and to foil the course of national harmony" in Lebanon. He added that the current visit of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Iraq and the visits he has paid to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar and Bahrain seek to "accelerate" the convening of an Arab meeting to confront the danger of an Israeli assault.

KUWAIT

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM CALLS FOR SYRIAN STEADFASTNESS

LD111417 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 7 May 81 pp 1, 23

[Editorial: "Let Syria Destroy This Temple"]

[Excerpts] The American Philip Habib, President Reagan's envoy, is coming to the area to discuss the issue of the "molehill" which they have turned into a "mountain," or in other words, the missile crisis, which, more correctly, should be called the crisis of the Israeli aircraft and the Israeli aggression against the Lebanese, Syrians, and Palestinians. But the "American darlings" have perfected the tactic of the wolf who accuses the sheep of muddying the water in order to justify attacking and devouring him. Moreover, the Americans want to project themselves as peace mediators, the standpoint being that they have stopped Israel from attacking Syria and so must obtain a quid pro quo by prompting certain Arabs to pressure Syria to withdraw its missiles.

In actual fact there is no reason for this uproar or for Envoy Habib's trip. If the American darlings had any logic they would realize that the Syrians set up their missiles only after Israeli aircraft attacked their forces. How then can the installation of the missiles be the crisis, rather than the Israeli aircraft that forced the Syrians to install them. In other words, the American logic, contrary to all reason, has turned the effect rather than the cause into a crisis. The cause is Israel, its aircraft, and its aggression against the Arab forces in Lebanon. Unfortunately, some Arab quarters agree with this American logic and demand that Syria retreat and withdraw its missiles. These Arabs give the excuse that the current Arab situation now cannot tolerate an Arab-Israeli confrontation.

The Americans, who are establishing bases and setting up a rapid deployment force in the Gulf region and other Arab areas, find it excessive for Syria to install a number of missiles for Arab defense after conclusive evidence of Israeli aggression and undeniable crimes. Yet the Americans are finding some Arabs ready to listen, obey and pick up any American signal with great accuracy.

If Syria refuses to give in to this pressure tomorrow, they will have more to say about it; they will say that it is obstinate and extremist and that this will be harmful to the Arab character. But for our part we hope that Syria continues to reject all these pressures. Indeed we hope it explodes this humiliating Arab situation and presents itself and the Arabs only one choice: dignity or nothing.

We say this in the certainty that some Arabs want to finish Syria because they want to finish the poor relative called Palestine. In summary, some of them want the U.S.-Israeli peace to be established so as to ensure the continuity of this sick Arab reality--the reality of division, backwardness, decay and everlasting defeat. In fact we feel so humiliated that we wish that some Arab party--Syria in this case--would pull down the temple on itself and on the enemies in the hope that, from beneath the rubble, a new light will shine forth and awaken the slumbering Arabs.

QATAR

HABIB'S MISSION DESCRIBED AS DELAYING MANEUVER

JN091116 Doha QNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 9 May 81

[Text] Doha, 9 May (QNA)--Qatari papers today say that the curent mission of U.S. Presidential Envoy Philip Habib is no more than a maneuver to gain time and complete the necessary preparations to launch a war that would mix the cards in Lebanon. The papers say that the features of the plot have become more clear on the U.S. envoy's arrival in the Middle East.

AL-'ARAB says: The United States, which has announced that it will give more economic and military aid to the Zionist enemy, is directly involved in the frenzied campaign against Syria and its pan-Arab role in Lebanon as well as against the joint forces in Lebanon and their resistance to the isolationist plan. The paper alludes to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's call on the Arabs to face up to and foil the isolationist-Zionist-U.S. plot in Lebanon and says this call underscores the gravity of the current developments in Lebanon and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The paper says the United States is responsible for these developments because of the aid it is giving to the Zionist enemy and the current moves by Washington to impose certain conditions on Syria, curtail its role in Lebanon and, consequently, to create a serious situation that would only serve Zionist-isolationist-U.S. plans. AL-'ARAB calls for confronting these plans and stresses that Syria's steadfastness in Lebanon against all plots represents the pan-Arab struggle stand, which must be reinforced by supporting Syria and the joint forces in Lebanon.

Commenting editorially, AR-RAYAH says the U.S. envoy's mission can only be understood as a continuation of the work begun by Israel in creating an issue over the Syrian missiles and objecting to the presence of defense means for Arab forces on Arab territory. The paper adds: The gap between Begin's claim that the missiles are a threat to Israeli security and Syria's right to defend its forces, which represent Lebanon's legitimate army, cannot be bridged by a U.S. envoy who claims neutrality on an issue in which his country is the main motivator. The paper says Israel's objections cannot but be the outcome of an understanding between Israel and the United States since the beginning of this crisis. As evidence the paper cites the statement made recently by the U.S. national security adviser that Israel has every right to continue hot pursuit in Lebanon and the letter that President Reagan sent to Begin, who upon reading it asserted that the current U.S. administration is Israel's greatest supporter.

AR-RAYAH concludes by calling for readiness to face the treacherous aggression that Israel plans to wage when the U.S. envoy's mission ends in failure. The paper stresses that Israel does not wait for justifications when an aggression serves its interest.

SAUDI ARABIA

MINISTER OUTLINES VIEWS ON ISRAEL, AFGHANISTAN

LD111806 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1050 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Dubai, 11 May (SPA)--His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, has stressed that Saudi Arabia will not accept anything in exchange for holy Jerusalem or the rights of the Palestinian brethren. In a statement he made to AL-BAYAN published in Dubai today his royal highness called on the countries supporting Israel in its aggressive and expansionist actions to work to implement Arab demands if they are genuinely desirous of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

The foreign minister stated that Israel must recognize all the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, withdraw from all Arab territories occupied in 1967 and accept the establishment of a Palestinian state.

His royal highness called on the immediate withdrawal of foreign forces from Afghanistan and the settling of the Afghan problem without delay in order to maintain world peace and stability in the region.

AL-YAWM QUESTIONS NEUTRALITY OF HABIB MISSION

LD101114 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0715 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] Riyadh, 10 May (SPA)--The Saudi paper AL-YAWM today expresses its doubts about the neutrality of the U.S. envoy to the Middle East, Philip Habib. The paper says that instead of forcing Israel to withdraw its aggressive demands and persuading it or even forcing it to stop aggression and violation of Lebanon's sovereignty, the U.S. envoy asked Syria to turn its left cheek to Begin so that he could kill, destroy and render people homeless as he pleases in Lebanon. The paper warns that the failure of Habib's mission will mean that there will be no alternative to war between Syria and Israel, a war whose venue will this time be the Lebanese Al-Biqa' plain.

The paper calls for solving the Lebanese problem on both the Arab and Lebanese levels by the Lebanese rising above their differences and unifying their stands against the plans hatched against them and by the Arabs rushing to help Syria and Lebanon and every Arab voice fighting for Arabism and Islam.

UAE

AL-ITTIHAD SAYS 'MISSILE BATTLE' MUST NOT BE LOST

JN090913 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0740 GMT 9 May 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 9 May (ENA)--Today's UAE papers express the hope that true Arab solidarity will be achieved concerning the current developments in Lebanon and that this solidarity will make the battle in southern Lebanon the Arabs' last battle with Zionism in Lebanon and elsewhere.

AL-ITTIHAD calls for absolute Arab support to keep Syrian missiles in Lebanon. The paper says that the missiles must not be withdrawn or removed under any concessions regardless of the results and consequences. In its editorial the paper says: We must not close the Lebanese front to fedayeen activities with our own hands, because its closure would enable Begin to achieve the objective he stressed the day before yesterday at one of the settlements in the occupied West Bank when he said that Israel would not withdraw from the West Bank, Gaza, Jerusalem and Golan. The closure of the Lebanese front would also enable Begin to carry out his threat to destroy the Palestinians in Lebanon which, he claimed, would not be long now.

AL-ITTIHAD adds: We must not lose the Arab missile battle on an Arab territory because of Israel's threats. We know, and others also know, that this small sideshow will not liberate Palestine, restore Jerusalem or establish the Palestinian state. Still, a retreat in this battle would be very costly; it would make Begin and others in Israel think that the Zionist entity is the big power in this area and that the 1967 cease-fire lines are Israel's final borders. Afterward, Israel would try to expand beyond these borders. This is why it is important to pool all Arab resources to win this battle.

'ALI ADDRESSES PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ON LEBANON

NC111802 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1230 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Cairo, 11 May (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stressed that since the start of the recent developments in Lebanon, Egypt has eagerly explained its stand. He said that Egypt has stated its position clearly and unequivocably in a number of statements that the Foreign Ministry has issued and that the domestic and foreign information media have disseminated. In a statement he made today at the People's Assembly, which convened under speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib, 'Ali said that these statements dealt with the intensified diplomatic activity that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry is carrying out to end the suffering of the Arab people in Lebanon and to stop the further deterioration of the situation there. He said Egypt is attempting to prevent the situation from exploding and exposing the entire region to danger, the consequences of which God only knows.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister added that the recent confrontation began when the Phalangists and the Syrian deterrent forces both tried to dominate the hills surrounding the city of Zahlah, which each side considers of strategic importance to its positions. He said that the Syrians consider these hills important because they overlook the main supply route to their forces. They also believe that the Phalangists' attempt to build a road linking Zahlah and Juniyah is to give the Phalangists and Israel a direct route to Al-Biqa'. It is the Syrians' opinion that this road would have led to geographical linkage among the forces of Sa'd Haddad, Israel and the Phalangists and that it would have undermined Syria's defenses and led to besieging its forces in Al-Biqa'.

The importance of these hills to the Phalangists is that they mean the extension of the area under their control from the area north of Beirut to the east and through Lebanon's mountains to the Al-Biqa' valley.

'Ali stressed that the Syrian and Israeli military movements have increased in the last week. In addition, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin has alleged that the State of Israel is protecting the Christians in Lebanon, and the Syrians have deployed SAM-6 and SAM-2 missiles in Al-Biqa' and decided that Lebanon is a confrontation state without soliciting its opinion. He explained that all this has increased the threat to Lebanon's peace, security and unity and exposed the entire region to a confrontation.

In his statement, 'Ali emphasized that the positive Egyptian move has concentrated since the beginning on the settlement of the Lebanese issue through the holding of a dialogue among the parties to the crisis.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister pointed out that the Syrian role has opened wide the door for continuous Israeli interference in Lebanon and for dividing spheres of influence in it. This division does, in fact, exist. Furthermore, the concentration of various sects in geographical locations is leading to the continuation of the deterioration and the increase of the suffering of all those living in Lebanon.

'Ali went on: Hence Egypt's call, which President Anwar as-Sadat made on the occasion of the celebrations marking labor day, to the Arab leaders--to meet and reassess the Syrian role in Lebanon and lay down the bases for preventing the continuation of the Israeli movements, the bloodshed in Lebanon and its exposure to the dangers of partition and the separation of its territory and for preventing Israel's attempts to make gains from this deteriorating situation. 'Ali said that a permanent committee has been formed at the Foreign Ministry to follow the events in Lebanon. He added that it has held several meetings to appraise the situation and that it is continuing its meetings with the aim of submitting appropriate proposals.

'Ali continued: We immediately contacted the UN secretary general and expressed our support for the French proposal for the dispatch of a UN envoy to Lebanon to study the situation and exert efforts with the forces influencing the various parties to exert pressure on Syria, Israel and the Phalangists to exercise self-restraint, to coordinate and cooperate with Lebanon and the Palestinians and to provide urgent aid through the Palestinian Red Cross.

'Ali asked the People's Assembly to appeal again to the brothers in the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies and the Arab parliaments to put matters in order and prompt their leaderships to act at once before a fait accompli that does not serve peace and the aspirations of the people is imposed on the region.

The People's Assembly agreed to refer 'Ali's statement to its Arab Affairs Committee and the Foreign Relations Committee's Bureau so they can prepare a report on it and submit it to the assembly as soon as possible.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES APPLIED ARTS GRADUATES 9 MAY

NC091542 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1032 GMT 9 May 81

[Speech by President Anwar as-Sadat at a celebration held at the National Democratic Party Central Committee Hall on the occasion of the applied arts graduates day--live]

[Text] In the name of God, [cheers and applause] brothers and sisters, sons and daughters among the applied arts graduates: Our meeting this year comes at a time, praise be to God, when we have started the battle of building prosperity. When I found out that we had a surplus, I asked the officials on the first day of this month to start a process of increasing wages and linking them to prices.

We have a surplus this year. This means that we are in a better position this year than last year, God be praised. We shall have a still greater surplus next year, God willing. This is a blessing from God Almighty. This surplus is the result of the efforts of workers, including the family of applied arts graduates, whom we honor today.

Perhaps this would serve as a lesson to some of those around us, who believed that Egypt's decision and will could be bought or that it could be stifled economically or isolated politically. We have not been isolated politically, but they have isolated themselves from Egypt. We have not been stifled economically. You remember how they tried to buy Egypt's decision. When they failed, they plotted to stifle Egypt's economy. We worked hard and endured. All factions of the Egyptian people worked hard and we emerged from the bottleneck which we had to confront in 1979. This bottleneck was their goal to stifle Egypt economically.

The year 1981 has brought in a surplus, praise be to God, which has been distributed to everyone. We have not only distributed this surplus but we have also kept, as I told you, 150 million pounds as a reserve to face the impact of inflation coming from abroad. We want to ease the burdens of our people and kinsmen. This is why we kept this amount of 150 million pounds to use in case of more inflation from abroad, because we do not want this inflation to reach us.

What is more magnificent than all of this is that we have started this year the battle of the real challenge. It is my conviction that the battle of the real challenge is the battle of prices. You have heard my instructions to the governors on 1 May and I again repeat that the governors will be responsible to me for any fabricated increases in prices. All the current increases are fabricated, for they do not represent sound lawful profit; they represent greed. This is why I address the governors when I am speaking to the family of the applied arts graduates.

The great challenge we are facing this year is the start of the green revolution with intensive agriculture and the establishment of an agricultural-industrial complex in the Foundation City, on 50,000 feddans. This is the beginning for this year, God willing. [applause]

Up to now, we had not been able to embark on this huge work project because, as you remember, I had hoped to take, or rather, I had hoped that our Arab brothers would help us as partners. I did not ask them for help. [applause] I asked them to help us by participating as partners. Instead of leaving their wealth in banks in the form of paper, I asked them to come and transform their wealth into real assets: land, agriculture and industry which would benefit all of them for the remainder of their lives. However, avarice blinded them.

This happened despite the fact that [former Saudi King] Faysal was aware of this. You remember the oil pipeline that we built between Suez and Alexandria. At that time the cost of the pipeline was $400 million. When I contacted Faysal, may God have mercy on his soul, he said $400 million was no problem and that he would send it to us and that when the pipeline became operable we could repay him. I told him no, I want you to be a partner and, accordingly, he agreed. Kuwait also entered as a partner. Regrettably, Kuwait, despite all that Egypt has done and is doing for it, did not observe the simplest principles of fraternity and understanding. It is the mentality of the oil shaykhs.

The oil pipeline at present provides a profit of 30 percent. We are not angry or bitter--never. Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Qatar entered as partners and they take 30 percent of the profits. This is the way I offered the project to Faysal. As I told you, when he told me that he wanted to send me $400 million and that there was no need for anything and that we should start the project and then repay him, I told him: No, come and be my partner, because Faysal was up to the responsibility in understanding. Now this project provides a profit of 30 percent. If they had joined us, all our projects would now be making a profit of 30 percent--particularly the agricultural projects, which would have also given them 30 percent. However, we thank them for what they have done without any emotion or grudge on our part--never.

Now they are paying Iraq a total of $1 billion a month. Egypt, which removed defeat, humiliation, world contempt and lack of self-confidence for all of them before the whole world, did not ask for this. Our requests were very modest. When they decided to give us $2 billion, may God forgive them, they kept delaying payment until we reached the point--you heard me say it--that accumulations amounted to 70,000 pounds sterling daily, as a result of a delay in paying off the installments and compound interest. They did this with the sum of $2 billion. After that, and being in the quagmire of grudge, anger and ignorance, the Arabs went to the World Bank to demand that we pay for their assets in Egypt--even though they were aware that that would destroy our economy.

What is strange is that at the time they voted with the United States at the international bank in favor of imposing a freeze on Iran's assets they demanded that Egypt should destroy its economy and pay their deposits, which they did not need. I don't say this out of hatred, may God forgive me. I say this in acknowledgement of God Almighty's blessings, which enabled us to hold out. This could perhaps serve as a lesson that we in Egypt might starve and might be compelled to face the most difficult conditions and that it might be necessary for us to bleed, but that the head of Egypt will remain, with God's help--under all circumstances, even when it is bleeding--high in the sky. [cheers and applause]

Praise be to God, our entire economy, as you know, has changed this year, to the extent that I have found a surplus and asked my assistants in the state and the Cabinet to distribute it among all our people. Furthermore, we have started the battle of challenge, which I spoke to you about.

We have entered the battle of prices. This is a two-sided battle. The first side of the battle is now being waged by popular development, to strike the middlemen so that we may give rest to the producer and the consumer. You have heard me say that when the price of one kilogram of beans was 10 or 12 piasters, the price of 10 or 12 piasters a kilogram included a profit for the producer and the merchant.

We all must enter this battle, which is actually raging, as I told you. However, there is a basic aspect to this battle. This aspect is to increase production so that we may stabilize the prices, and even reduce them. This is the battle of the green revolution, which we started this year, as I have told you. We are now in the fifth month of the year. In the 12th month, we hope, God willing, to have 50,000 feddans of cultivated land and the foundation of a city to accomodate 50,000 families, preparatory to doubling these figures in 1982, God willing. In April next year, God willing, that is, in 11 months from now, we will receive the remaining 20 percent of the Sinai with all that is there. As soon as we finish the current meetings on the procedures for the formation of the UN multinational force, I will ask the reconstruction minister to locate the areas in the remaining part of Sinai that will be ready, once Israel withdraws from them, for Egyptian families and graduates to enter, so that they can exploit Sinai and build new societies, God willing. [applause]

Thanks be to God, last year, during my meeting with you, I told you that I was optimistic. This year, while I am meeting with you, I tell you that I am more optimistic, thanks be to God. [applause]

Last year, we prepared a budget that we could hardly balance. It was unbalanced and there was a deficit in it. At my meeting with you this year, I told you that when we were preparing the new budget I discovered a $400 million [currency as heard] surplus and that I asked the officials to distribute this surplus so that those with small incomes could receive the larger share and those with big incomes could receive the lesser share. This is the first step in this direction, which will be followed, God willing, by other steps. [applause]

I told you that we have kept 150 million pounds as a reserve to link wages with prices. My meeting with you in 1985, God willing, will be to form a new outlook.

I can tell you that, God willing, even before 1985 we will find ourselves in a position that will make it completely clear that prosperity has been achieved for all Egypt's citizens--particularly with regard to our basic production problems, and specifically food production problems.

As you hear me say, I insist that, God willing, in 1985 we will be producing all our food--wheat excepted. I am confident that this production target, God willing, will even be met ahead of schedule. This is the reason for my telling you that the most splendid battle on which we are now embarking is the battle of the green revolution, encompassing 50,000 feddans. This revolution will be carried out with full mechanization and with the most up-to-date agricultural technology available in the world in the domains of irrigation and everything that is new.

We have embarked on this experiment on a large scale; that is, 50,000 feddans at a time. We want to cultivate these areas, not to reclaim them, so that they will immediately give us a yield. From this time on, up to 12 December, I set all my responsibilities aside to devote my attention to this experiment, because it resolves all our issues. This experiment resolves the food crisis, the price crisis and the housing crisis. There will be a basic city for every 50,000 feddans. For every 50,000 feddans, we will build a city and call it the basic city.

This is the battle of the challenge into which we are now entering. We are entering through the appropriate door and we are proceeding on a sound path to build prosperity for our people--which is the real democratic practice.

Some people still view the democratic exercise as the shouting of a few cheers, the making of speeches or the shouting of slogans. This process ended in the wake of the 23 July revolution. This process was in force in the era of the English, the corrupt parties and the corrupt rulers.

We now want to build prosperity for Egyptian citizens, exactly as other states built their societies in Western Europe. We want to be exactly as they are. Thank God, we have at our disposal the resources through which we will achieve this objective for all the citizens of Egypt. [applause]

The problem is no longer one of money. No! Nor is the problem one of technology--never! God be praised, our lord has sent us the money. Technology is ready and they are competing in offering everything for Egypt. To us, the problem is one of sweating, of being serious and of exiting from the labyrinths of the peripheral battles, which we must never heed. The reason is that a great battle of challenge is facing all of us; namely, all the people. This battle is not to be fought by one group, excepting another; by one faction excepting the other; by one sect, excepting another; or by a trade union, excepting another. Never--this is the battle that includes all of us.

This is because the benefits of production will be reaped by all. All of us will benefit from the stabilization of prices and from prosperity. This is the battle of all the citizens. This is the reason why we choose the major battles in which challenges reside. The reason is that our confrontation with the challenges will be commensurate to our success, God willing.

As I have told you, and God be praised, last year we hardly adjusted our balance. This balance included deficits, debts in the balance of payments and so on. This year, we say that we do not have such problems. On the contrary, we have opened new projects. The reason is the oil which will be struck and which will bring income into me. This income will compensate for all the aid which I dreamed that our brother Arabs would one day extend to us. I also dreamed that they would become our partners and that they would take the price of their aid in the form of existing bases, which would yield yearly profits for them--such as the pipeline with which I set an example.

King Faysal was pleading with me and telling me: Take the $250,000 [as heard] and implement this project. You will then settle for this amount. I told him: No, come and join us for the sake of the great meaning; that is, we will all profit and build together.

Thank God, this year we begin this great challenge battle. All evidence, thank God and God willing, indicates that we shall succeed, just as we have succeeded in all the battles we have faced until today. This is by the grace of God the Almighty and definitely the result of the goodness of Egypt just as the almighty God told us: From the land that is clean and good, by the will of its cherisher, springs up produce [rich] after its kind. But from the land that is bad springs up nothing but that which is niggardly. [Koranic verse]

Thank God, God Almighty has given us, and we no longer are in need at all. They must remember that while they were choking us--and we were in need and in debt, and we had huge commitments and so forth--we never sold Egypt's decision and we never sold Egypt's will--even if we had to starve. [applause]

This is the battle of the coming year--until we meet again, God willing. Perhaps, if God wills it that we live, we shall meet again next year and say what has been accomplished in the year of challenge and the battle of the green revolution. We shall talk about Egypt's movement to the society of abundance and prosperity.

We must, as I have said, devote ourselves to the battles of real challenge and not the side battles, with which some people want to engage this country.

As to what the union chairman has said regarding the union and all the things he demanded, there is no objection at all. But there is one thing: As you know, if we go into work classification many cadres will begin demanding the same treatment. As I have told you, our battle from now until 1985 will be to build prosperity for all of us, not just for one group and not the other. It will be for every citizen in the land of Egypt. I say that your union chairman should sit down with Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din and 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid, and, just as we have solved the problem of your brothers through incentives, it is possible they can also solve this problem through incentives. [applause] Apart from this, I have no objection to everything else you demanded. As I have told you, let us all turn toward the battle of the great challenge. We have won it even before we have embarked on it, God willing. [applause]

As for the land which the union chairman requested, the 10 Ramadan City is being built on the Al-Fayyum road. There is also the May City. Another city is going to be built on the Al-Fayyum road. I have asked and found out that an area has been allocated in the 10 Ramadan City for trade unions. You can take your share in it. The rest of the 1 million square meters you request you can take in the other cities, which are all around Cairo. I have no objection. [applause]

However, and as I have told you, let us all turn our attention to a battle which will yield benefits for all of us, not just for any particular group alone. This is the battle of the agricultural revolution, which is the key to the building of prosperity and to the building of Egypt's solid and strong economy, which will ever remain unshakeable. Let us all embark on this battle together; that is, until I meet with you, God willing, on this date next year.

As I have told you, I thank God that the present is better than the past. God willing, the future will be better than the present. Thus, our victories are being renewed, and our achievements are also being renewed. Also being renewed is the spirit of work, sweat, faith and selflessness for the sake of Egypt and for the sake of building Egypt. Furthermore, Egypt deserves that we render it this service. The reason is that ultimately this work will yield benefits to us and to our coming gnerations. May God grant you success. Peace be with you.

EXILED JOURNALISTS REPORTED RETURNING HOME

NC110721 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] Cairo, 10 May (MENA)--Journalists' doyen Salah Jalal has told MAY magazine, which will be published tomorrow, that he has received telegrams from a number of Egyptian journalists working abroad. In these telegrams, these journalists express their desire to return to Egypt in response to the call made to them by President as-Sadat on the occasion of Journalists day. Some of these journalists have stated that they will indeed arrive in Cairo before 15 May, the date set by the president for pardoning them for their actions against their country.

Notifications had been sent by the journalists union to members covered by the amnesty, inviting them to return to Egypt and informing them that all the law suits filed against them had been dropped. The union also informed all its members desiring to return home that they are welcome to do so and that freedom of opinion is guaranteed for all citizens. MAY magazine has learned that instructions have been issued to the officials concerned not to harm any Egyptian writers who are now abroad and who will meet the deadline for returning home set for the journalists by President as-Sadat.

MINISTER DENIES KUWAITI REPORT OF ARMED RESISTANCE

NC110811 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2221 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] Cairo, 10 May (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il has affirmed that a report published by a Kuwaiti newspaper that there is an armed opposition within Egypt and that a bomb explosion killed two security men in Egypt is a sheer figment of the imagination and unfounded. The deputy prime minister said that the Egyptian people now live in an atmosphere of stability, security and safety and with all confidence and hope rally around the leader, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat.

ABU GHAZAL ALI APPOINTED TO NDP POLITICAL BUREAU

LD111613 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 9 May 81 p 1

[Unattributed report: "General Abu Ghazalah Member of NDP Political Bureau"]

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat has issued an order appointing Lt Gen 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah member of the National Democratic Party Political Bureau. This was stated by Kamal ash-Shadhili, party assistant secretary general and secretary for organization.

NONALIGNED COMMITTEE STATEMENT SAYS TALKS POSITIVE

JN1209 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] Bagdad, 12 May (INA)--The nonaligned good offices committee has ended its 2-day visit to Iraq during which it met with President Saddam Husayn and other Iraqi officials and left Baghdad today. The committee, entrusted with finding a solution to the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, includes Cuban Foreign Affairs Minister Isidoro Malmierca, Indian External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao, Zambian Foreign Affairs Minister Lameck Goma, head of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi and PLO UN Representative Zuhdi at-Tarazi.

The committee expressed satisfaction with the results of its visit to Baghdad, its second such visit, and its meeting with President Saddam Husayn. In a press statement issued prior to its departure, the committee said that it had met with Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, and Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and exchanged viewpoints with them.

In its statement the committee renewed its readiness to continue its efforts to contribute to the implementation of the principles of nonalignment and the final statement of its ministerial conference which was held in New Delhi to find a solution to the current Iraqi-Iranian conflict. The statement pointed out that the committee believes that the results of its visit to Iraq were fruitful and positive. The committee was apprised of President Saddam Husayn's useful viewpoints and of his excellency's readiness to contribute anew to its efforts.

The committee told President Saddam Husayn that it would return to Iraq and Iran at the first opportunity to resume its mediation efforts entrusted to it by the nonaligned ministerial conference--efforts which have been welcomed by President Saddam Husayn--after assessing the results of this visit to Tehran and Baghdad.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Comment

JN111446 Baghdad INA in English 1100 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 11 May (INA)--A leading Iraqi daily said that the success of the new peace effort by the non-aligned good-offices committee is a desperate matter because of the arrogant attitude of Tehran rulers and their persistance to continue their war against Iraq.

In a commentary here today on the current tour of the committee, AL-JUMHURIYAH newspaper added that the committee will not hear from Tehran rulers something better than what it has heard during its previous visits. "Any proposals put forward by the committee will be rejected and it will hear from Bani-Sadr views easily to be contradicted by Raja'i and Rafsanjani," it further said.

The daily pointed out that the outcome of the committee's visit would be an unanimity by Tehran rulers to fight Iraq and put obstacles before any international effort that seeks to solve the conflict peacefully.

The reasons of this arrogance, the paper added, are due to the fact that the Iranian rulers have found in the war their precious opportunity to engage the peoples of Iran instead of paying attention to the devastating situations of the country. The continuation on the war will provide for the warring parties in Iran a good cover and it is the best time for all parties to work for seizing power.

The paper said that the acceptance of peaceful negotiations and the return of Iran to the normal life will uncover the reality of the Iranian regime and the disastrous situation that currently prevails in Iran and it will also lead to its downfall.

The paper ridiculed claims of the Iranian rulers that the mediation committees have come to save Iraq from the war crisis and to stop its defeat, saying that they are merely "nonsense" because Iraq has proved during the last eight months of the war its strength and will continue to be strong.

In conclusion, the paper said that the Iranian rulers have to quit their empty arrogance and recognize Iraq's historical and legitimate rights and stop their expansionist covets and aggressive intentions towards the region, for this policy will cost them high.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUE 333

JN111642 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 11 May (INA)--During the past 24 hours the triumphant Iraqi Armed Forces killed 82 Iranians and downed a helicopter in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area. Announcing this today, Communique No 333 issued by the Armed Forces General Command said that other known enemy losses were five infantry positions, one tank, one armored troop carrier, two guns, three vehicles, three observation posts and four stockpiles of hardware. The following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant armed forces continued their activities in the operational sectors. The following is the result of these activities yesterday evening and today:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. One of our units clashed with an enemy infantry force in the Nawsud area. Our units pounded the enemy force violently, forcing it to flee after sustaining 34 dead. Our units also attacked an enemy concentration in the Iranian area opposite Panjwin, forcing it to retreat after sustaining nine dead.
B. Seven were killed and three infantry positions, one gun, one vehicle and one stockpile of hardward were destroyed in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area.
C. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite our positions in the Gilan-e Gharb area. Our units pounded the concentration, killing 11.
D. Five were killed in the Mimak area opposite our positions in Sayf Sa'd.
E. One infantry position and one observation post were destroyed in the Mehran area.
F. Five were killed and one observation post was destroyed in the Dezful area.
G. One infantry position, one armored troop carrier, one gun, two vehicles loaded with hardware and one stockpile of hardware were destroyed in the Shush area.
H. One stockpile of hardward was destroyed and one helicopter was downed in the Khafajiyah area.
I. Using various weapons, our units pounded enemy concentrations and positions in the Abadan area, killing 11 and destroying 1 tank, 1 observation post and 1 stockpile of hardware.

This brings known enemy losses to 82 dead and 5 infantry positions, 1 tank, 1 armored troop carrier, 2 guns, 3 vehicles, 3 observation posts, 4 stockpiles of hardware and 1 helicopter.

II. One of our patrols discovered the corpses of 10 enemy troops in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area. They were buried in the same area.

III. Our losses:

A. In personnel: 13 martyrs in all sectors.
B. In equipment: Three vehicles, one mortar and one gun were damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 May 1981

YASIR 'ARAFAT HOLDS TALKS DURING 2-DAY VISIT

Haddad, 'Aziz Meeting

JN111937 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1915 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Baghdad, 11 May (INA)--Na'im Haddad and Tariq 'Aziz, members of the Ba'th Party National Command, met here today with Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman. They discussed the latest developments in the Arab area and in Lebanon in particular. They also discussed the dangers to which Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance are exposed and the Zionist military escalation which is aimed at realizing the Zionist expansionist designs in southern Lebanon discussion also touched on the Zionist enemy's attempt to deal blows to the Palestinian resistance forces with the aim of weakening and liquidating them, attempts that are in implementation of the Zionist aggressive design, which is supported by the imperialist forces, against our Palestinian people and our Arab nation.

An agreement was reached during the meeting on the importance of continuing consultations to discuss any new developments and to continue coordination in all fields.

Haddad and 'Aziz reaffirmed the support of the leadership of the party and revolution for the PLO to enable it to confront the Zionist aggressive onslaught and to face the conspiratorial designs that are aimed at harming the struggle of the Palestinian people and Arab nation.

Saddam Husayn Meeting

JN120734 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0300 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the armed forces, received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat last night. The current Arab situation and the recurrent Zionist aggressions against the Palestinian resistance movement were discussed at the meeting. The president stressed the importance of the Arab nation's solidarity with the Palestinian resistance movement to confront any Zionist aggression against it. He also stressed determination to uphold the Palestinian issue and the Palestinian people's rights. The president asserted the importance of an accurate and mature distinction, emanating from the Arab conscience, between such a pan-Arab necessity and any policies or stands which are not linked in essence and objectives with it.

The meeting was attended by Comrades Na'im Haddad and Tariq 'Aziz, members of the Ba'th Party National Command; Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi; Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser Hani al-Hasan; and PLO Representative in Baghdad 'Azzam al-Ahmad.

[Baghdad INA in Arabic at 0755 GMT on 12 May adds: PLO Executive Commitee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Baghdad this morning following a 2-day visit to Iraq.]

JORDAN TIMES SAYS HABIB IS IMPROPER MEDIATOR

JN121141 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 12 May 81 p 4

[Editorial: "The Politics of Hate"]

[Text] There is something preverse about the current mission to the Middle East of U.S. Special Envoy Philip Habib, who is trying to defuse the crisis between Israel and Syria about the Syrian missiles stationed in Lebanon. Much as we do not want to see another useless war in the area, and much as we would like the Syrian role in Lebanon to revert to its original peace-making imperative, we are nevertheless bemused by the mental agility of those who think that the United States can assume the role of a fair and impartial mediator in this matter. The United States is viewed by us, and by most of the Arab world, as the underpinning cause of the present turmoil that grips the Middle East. It is naive and impertinent for the United States to think that it can play the mediator's role while it is the provider of the arms, money and diplomatic support that allows Israel--one of the parties to the dispute it is attempting to mediate--to demand a status quo in the area based on clear Israeli military superiority. It is doubly insulting that we are sent American mediators at a time when top officials in Washington are stating at least three times a week in Senate confirmation hearings that the basis of Mideast power relations must always remain a qualitative Israeli superiority--near Israel-controlled frontiers and also further inland, such as in Lebanon. What are the Arabs asked to agree to? Continued and sanctioned Israeli dominance? Is it such a surprise that America is generating a hatred in the Arab world that grows more intense every week?

PAPER TERMS MISSILE CRISIS PRETEXT FOR AGGRESSION

JN120817 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 12 May 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on Begin's remarks under the headline "In Order To Be Able To Confront the Enemy," AD-DUSTUR says: Menahem Begin's remarks in the Israeli Knesset show that Israel was preparing to launch a large-scale aggression against southern Lebanon and other areas in Lebanon and to strike against the deterrent forces even before the missile crisis in Lebanon emerged. These remarks also show that Washington knew about Israel's aggressive schemes and that it intervened not to stop these schemes but to postpone them so as to ensure the success of Haig's tour of the region. Moreover, the recurrent air and sea raids against the Palestinian resistance's positions and the continued artillery shelling of Lebanese towns and villages also show that the missile crisis is no more than a mere pretext which Begin wants to use to justify the military aggression which, as he admitted, was postponed twice: once because of bad weather and once at the intervention of the U.S. secretary of state.

The paper adds: Begin's threats yesterday to attack the Syrian missile bases in Al-Biqa' if the U.S. envoy's mission fails confirm that direct intervention in Lebanon is part of a joint Israeli-U.S. plan to liquidate the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese nationalist forces, make Israel an effective partner in the Lebanese arena and exploit U.S.-Soviet contacts in order to curtail and subsequently end the Arab role not only in Lebanon but also regarding everything connected with the entire Arab region so that the process of international bargaining will be facilitated to reach agreements and settlements that ensure the interests of all sides but that of the Arabs. The magnitude of the imminent Israeli danger and the gravity of the plot to internationalize the Lebanese crisis through the missile crisis and to internationalize the Middle East region increase the danger of letting the regrettable state of Arab disunity, contradictions and differences continue. The continuation of such a state of affairs means the success of the Israeli schemes and of the international plot. In order to forestall matters before it is too late, the Arabs should overcome all their differences and contradictions and unify their stands to restore to Arab confrontation its weight and ability to repulse the Israeli enemy and thwart all its schemes, thus saving Lebanon from loss and devoting their time to preparing for the inevitable confrontation with the enemy to liberate the occupied Arab territories, which are now facing the threat of Judaization and annexation through the continuing Zionist invasion.

ISRAELI PLANES DRAW SAM FIRE OVER AL-BIQA' 12 MAY

NC120600 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' reports that at 0455 today Israeli planes flew over the area at a high altitude, drawing surface-to-air missile fire from the Syrian bases between Kafr Zabad and (Usayah), but the missiles exploded in the air over Riyaq Airport without hitting the planes.

Beirut Radio Report

NC121026 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1060 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] News agency correspondents in Lebanon have confirmed reports that at dawn today the Syrian forces opened antiaircraft SAM fire on two Israeli fighter planes flying at a high altitude over the area. The correspondents added that Syrian antiaircraft guns also engaged the two Israeli planes, which were forced to flee toward the south. They said that the incident took place at about 0500 today, after which nothing disturbed the calm in Al-Biqa' area.

SARKIS MEETS ON SITUATION WITH MINISTERS, ENVOYS

NC111832 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] The security situation and ways to tackle it were the subject of two meetings between President Ilyas Sarkis and Arab Deterrent Forces Commander Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib and Director General of the Internal Security Forces Maj Gen Ahmad al-Haj. The president of the republic also discussed the various political activities that are taking place at home and in the area. He met with Ministers Fu'ad Butrus, Qaysar Nasr, Salim al-Jahil and Michel Iddih. He also met with the Romanian ambassador and the Algerian ambassador, who handed his excellency a message from Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on the situation in Lebanon.

AL-WAZZAN REACTS TO ISRAELI POSITION ON MISSILES

NC111314 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today made a statement in response to Israeli threats, saying that such threats are being made for electioneering purposes and that Israel is always looking for excuses to attack Lebanon. Prime Minister al-Wazzan affirmed that the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] are legal forces. In reply to a question Prime Minister al-Wazzan said:

[Begin recording] [Question] Mr Prime Minister, what is your opinion about the Israeli threats regarding the missile issue?

[Answer] The whole world knows that Israel is looking for excuses to launch an aggression against Lebanese territory. Israel wants to exploit the results of its aggression to further its aims and interests, including its elections interests even at the expense of our Lebanese people's sufferings.

The missiles issue is just an excuse to justify such an aggression. I have already officially expressed our rejection of these excuses, which are inconsistent with logic, our legitimate rights in our homeland and sovereignty over our territory and airspace.

These missiles were deployed only after the Israeli air aggression in Al-Biqa' and the attack on the two Syrian helicopters attached to the ADF, which we consider as a legal force. In one of its resolutions the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies stated that the ADF, together with the internal security forces and the army, constitute one legal military unit.

The Lebanese, their Arab brothers and their friends are called upon today to take a stand at home and abroad and before the international organizations to expose Israel's methods and aggressive plans. We are living through difficult and history-making days. Israel's public threats must induce every one to share in responsibility.

The position which I am announcing today reflects the official position. The parliamentary consultations which took place last week at the presidential palace underlined a splendid national stand by the deputies from the various factions, areas and parties toward the Zionist danger against Lebanon and the need to resist it. The people of Lebanon realize more than others the extent of this Zionist danger at present and in the future--politically, economically and on every level. [end recording]

ISLAMIC COUNCIL SUPPORTS SYRIA ON MISSILES

NC111852 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] The Islamic Council Bureau today held a regularly scheduled meeting. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan attended part of it. Following the meeting a statement was issued in which the council appealed to all Lebanese parties to avoid traps and adhere to national accord as the only way of achieving salvation. The statement called for not retreating from the positive stands that all Lebanese parties have already adopted. The statement said that there is nothing to justify retreat.

The statement also said that the council views the Israeli position on the issue of the deterrent force's missiles in Lebanon as one consistent with the arrogant, aggressive attitude that we have become accustomed to from Israel, which is only interested in its expansionist aims, disregarding the national rights of this wounded homeland, including the right to defend its territory, citizens and armed forces. This also includes the right of the legal Arab Deterrent Forces to defend their legitimate, required and justified presence on Lebanese territory.

The Islamic Council called on international officials to acknowledge the Lebanese tragedy and seriously help to achieve national accord.

SOCIALISTS ISSUE STATEMENT ON CURRENT SITUATION

NC111828 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad today presided over the regularly scheduled meeting of the Central Bureau of the Democratic Socialist Party. During the meeting Speaker al-As'ad reviewed the minutes of the talks he held with the U.S. President's envoy, Philip Habib. A statement issued following the meeting affirmed:

1. The present stage demands from all Lebanese, irrespective of their affiliations, unity of rank and position, because any division in Lebanon can only benefit Israel.

2. Israel, which has patronized the strife in Lebanon and is continuing to do so, became worried by signs that a relaxation in tension was about to be achieved by virtue of the recent Lebanese-Syrian initiative. Israel hastened to resist the Syrian role in Lebanon, trying to mislead a party that was about to respond to the reconciliation efforts not out of its care for any one but in order to maintain the division.

3. The position of Begin, the executer of the Dayr Yasin massacre, on military escalation is an extortionist one consistent with his attempt to win his election campaign and his natural disposition for crime.

4. It is self-evident that Syria, which is exercising its national tasks on Lebanese territory, should use all the defense means in its possession to defend these tasks irrespective of the type and identity of the weapons in its possession. Israel is exploiting the identity of these weapons simply to arouse U.S. sympathy.

5. U.S. adherance to its position of absolute support of Israel will only result in the perpetuation of the enmity of the Arab peoples. The position that we are awaiting will be the test for the extent of its understanding of the Arab issue, namely, a position consistent both with the interests of world peace and of the United States.

The required position is one that does not stop after the defusing of war but promotes a just and comprehensive solution to the crisis in the area by asserting the Arab rights and recognizing the right of the Palestinian people to return to their land, and working for this goal on the responsible international level.

On another subject, the Democratic Socialist Party has addressed a cable of congratulations to the new French president, Francois Mitterrand.

MAJOR HADDAD COMMENTS ON CURRENT LEBANESE ISSUES

NC120855 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] Free Lebanon commander Major Haddad has commented on some current topics as follows:

1. Following the recent events in Beirut, thousands of families have returned to free Lebanon's villages and nearby villages in search of security and protection--including those who have been collaborating with the terrorists and the leftists. For our part, we welcome all the arrivals, provided that they sever all their previous relations with the terrorists and their collaborators and that they demonstrate loyalty to the free Lebanese state. In particular, we draw the attention of the inhabitants of the Ibil as-Saqy town to this matter, especially because the town is under our effective control and is considered a free Lebanese town.

Following the arrival of several families to Ibil as-Saqy, we learned that some of them have been carrying out terrorist activity inside the town. Therefore, we hereby declare that we shall not agree to this activity under any circumstances. Therefore, either these people should stop their suspect activity immediately or we will find ourselves obliged to intervene with our special means--something which will harm all of the inhabitants of the town.

2. We are surprised that all the state officials have denounced the firing of a rocket on the Emile al-Hilu barracks, while none of them has so far denounced the war of extermination being waged against army elements stationed on the contact lines in the capital and the suburbs. The reason, perhaps, is that these elements are defending their homeland against the real enemy of Lebanon. This has not pleased the representatives of the legitimate authorities, because they are conspiring against the safety of the homeland, people and army in favor of the Syrian occupier.

We hereby ask the army command to behave in a correct manner for once, without referring to the fake political leadership, by supporting the honest army elements with all available means and allowing them to attack and liquidate the enemy positions that are opening fire and inflicting casualties on them. We are confident that the army will be able to win magnificent victories, and will thus defend themselves from being liquidated and serve the homeland more appropriately. If the army command fails to do this, it would be better and more honorable for it to submit its resignation instead of being labeled with treason against the homeland.

3. It is obvious that Syria is publicly cursing the United States through its information service while it is begging it secretly. This is what is happening now. The Syrian information services are attacking the U.S. role while 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Hafiz al-Asad and their collaborators are begging the U.S. envoy, Mr Habib, to keep the Israeli danger away from them and to grant their presence in Lebanon a U.S. cover, which will allow them to proceed with their plan to annex all of Lebanon without any military intervention from Israel.

The Syrian rulers know well that they can triumph over the Lebanese militias, but they are too weak to face Israel militarily. This is because the Syrian Army has only been trained to attack civilians, be they Syrian or Lebanese, and not to confront an organized army like the Israeli Defense Forces.

We ask U.S. Envoy Philip not to be taken in by the Syrians' begging and sweet talk. He must ask them to leave Lebanon immediately, without any strings or conditions, in order to preserve human rights in Lebanon and as a service to thk free world.

4. Despite the Syrian and terrorist forces' iron-fist control of vast areas of Lebanon, the liberation spirit and the revolution against the occupiers are still strong among the Lebanese. This explains the stubborn and inequitable fighting that the Lebanese are waging in Dayr Qanun an-Nahr, Jwayya, Habbush, Al-Ghaziyah, Ba'labakk, Ash-Shiyyah, Al-Ghubayri and Tripoli. This is happening despite the lack of necessary weapons in the hands of these honorable Lebanese, whose patriotism and heroism we appreciate.

In harmony with our principle that Lebanon belongs to the Lebanese and that our battle is against the Syrian and Palestinian occupiers, we support anyone who works toward this objective. Therefore, we have decided to generously support every Lebanese wherever he is and to give him all the necessary weapons, provided that he uses this aid against the occupier and for the sake of Lebanon's liberation and the unity of its people and territory.

VOL REPORTS ON ACTIVITIES OF SYRIAN FORCES

NC120728 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that several Syrian officers have been replaced in some positions while others have been relieved of their responsibilities. These measures were adopted for reasons related to the current developments.

SAM batteries have been installed in Latakia-Tartus area as a precaution against air strikes coming through the north, as happened in the 1967 war with Egypt.

The Syrian forces have expropriated all fuel stations in Barr Ilyas, 'Anjar and Ta'nayil and installed additional fuel tanks in 'Anjar area.

The number of Syrian forces in west Beirut are being reduced and tanks withdrawn, but the Syrian forces have maintained the rocket launchers there.

Tanks Enter Lebanon

NC111307 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Information received by the Voice of Lebanon indicates that 40 Syrian tanks have entered Lebanon through Al-Masna'. We have also received a report indicating that a number of shells have fallen in the Bisharah al-Khuri and Al-Bastah areas and that they were aimed at the Syrian and Palestinian artillery emplacements.

Antiaircraft Guns Set Up

NC120944 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' reports that the Syrian forces are reinforcing their positions in the (Al-Karak) area and that the Syrians have set up antiaircraft guns near the Dahr al-Baydar police station.

LEADERS COMMENT ON MITTERRAND'S ELECTION

Sarkis' Congratulations

NC112104 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis has sent a cable to Francois Mitterrand on the occasion of his election as president of the French Republic. The cable reads:

His Excellency Francois Mitterrand, the president-elect of the French Republic:

On the occasion of the election of your excellency as head of the French Republic, it gives me pleasure to express on my own behalf and that of the Lebanese people warm wishes and congratulations to your excellency and for the prosperity of the French nation. I earnestly hope that Lebanon will continue to enjoy your valuable support of its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity in the present tragic days.

On this occasion, I emphasize to you my firm resolve to further strengthen the relations of traditional and historic friendship which bind our countries.

[Signed] Ilyas Sarkis, president of the Lebanese Republic

Al-As'ad's Comments

NC111920 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Commenting on the victory of the French Socialist leader, Francois Mitterrand, Chamber of Deputies Speaker Kamil al-As'ad said: We attach much importance to this democratic experiment. Calling on the new president to make a sound approach to a just solution of the Palestinian issue, he said: The important thing is that there should be no deviation in President Mitterrand's position on the Arab issue from that which President Giscard d'Estaing adopted, particularly since the Lebanese issue is the result of the Middle East crisis.

Pierre Al-Jumayyil's Views

NC111332 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 May 81

[Excerpt] Regarding the French presidential elections, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil said: We do not want to say anything on electoral preferences but we wish success to the new French president, particularly in the sphere of the continuation of the French efforts toward achieving peace in Lebanon. France is considered a leader among the civilized states and was the first country to place the human rights law among the principles of the French revolution. Moreover, on the basis of its humanitarian and civilized heritage and the distinctive relations of friendship with Lebanon, France is expected to exert its utmost efforts for the sake of guaranteeing the national and humanitarian rights of the Lebanese citizen.

PHILIP HABIB CONCLUDES DAMASCUS VISIT 11 MAY

JN111741 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] From the Zionist racist entity: Philip Habib, U.S. President Reagan's envoy, arrived in occupied Palestine this afternoon. Habib had left Damascus at noon today after a 3-day visit to Syria.

SYRIAN POSITION UNCHANGED; 'WARNINGS' REJECTED

JN111418 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 May 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Steadfast Syria has defined its stands on more than one occasion and in more than one statement. Syria stated to the Arabs in all the Arab states that the pan-Arab battle behooves Syria to be the spearhead of confrontation in order to liberate the usurped rights and to enable the Arab individual to live in dignity on his national soil.

Once again Syria reiterated its stand during the Cabinet's extraordinary meeting yesterday, affirming that the existing challenges only serve to bolster this state's steadfastness and make it even more unyielding in confronting plots and aggression.

Our state, which is always guided by pan-Arab necessity, has stated on more than one occasion that its commitment to the defense of the Palestinian resistance and Lebanon's unity and independence is firm and principled and that such a commitment necessitates the identification of the sides in the imperialist-Zionist equation. Thus, since the United States constitutes the major, leading side in this equation, Syria made its calculations in accordance with a subtle logic. According to this logic, there should be no distinction between Israel's aggressive nature and U.S. policy, which exerts all possible efforts to entrench the causes of occupation and to bolster those participating in such an aggression.

The comrade prime minister affirmed that the current escalation of tension in our region is merely a fabricated tension made up by the U.S. administration in order to justify Israel's continued aggression on Lebanon and the Arab nation.

In order to clarify the Arab Syrian stand in all its aspects, it must be pointed out and stressed that this state has progressed far in building its confrontation strategy and upsetting the balance of power, which the United States has always worked to entrench in Israel's favor.

If the fabricated uproar on the Syrian missiles in Lebanon has roused the United States and given it the right to utter threats, then it is the right of Syria and its struggling masses to ask Washington how it can consider the Israeli attacks as a legitimate defense while considering the right of the Arab soldier to move over his Arab territory in order to defend it as illegitimate. Washington, however, has forgotten that Syria, which has offered and is still offering sacrifices for Lebanon and its unity and for Palestine and its people, rejects warnings as long as it remains confident of its right and the justness of its issue. It was from the premise of such awareness of the nature of the battle and confrontation that the comrade prime minister proceeded in his assertion that Syria has prepared the necessary means of power that would enable it to crush any underhanded aggression on the Arab territory, be it in Lebanon or in Syria itself.

This state's leadership does not need to make further clarifications on its determination to repulse aggression. Indeed, it adopted its decision on more than one occasion when the leader of its march announced that the decision is ours and that we adopt such a decision in accordance with our own will.

The Arab masses, therefore, have the right to say their word to the renegades and the hesitant in the Arab arena. The crucial stand in pan-Arab work should proceed from the nature of the circumstances, which the United States is attempting to exploit for the service of the Zionist goal. This state and its masses have defined their stands. In fact, the aggressors should be well aware that these stands will only be pan-Arab in their direction, firm in their will and geared to the service of the masses' fate and goal.

ARAB SUPPORT OF SYRIA PRAISED; MORE SOUGHT

JN120934 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 12 May 81

[Press review]

[Text] In a commentary entitled "Jerusalem's Word," TISHRIN says: The loud cheering for Syria in Jerusalem is a condemnation of the various forces which are standing by as spectators while Syria is waging the pan-Arab battle, especially those who are trying to exploit the current situation, in which Syria is facing Israel's belligerence, by conspiring against the national [watani] line which Syria is promoting and spearheading. While Syria is in the heart of this crisis, defending the whole Arab nation and getting ready to repulse any aggression by the enemy, Jordan Crown Prince Hasan comes up with an allegation that the Jordanian regime stands on the longest frontline with the enemy. What confrontation is this when the Jordanian regime is trying to harm Syria and disrupt its active national [watani] role and prevent Palestinian fedayeen from exercising their legitimate right of dealing with the occupiers of their homeland from the Jordanian front, which is indeed the longest front but which Israel is not worried about. Therefore, the Jerusalem cheering is a condemnation of such policies.

While Syria is sparing no effort to achieve national accord and remove any excuse that the opponents of accord might have, the Phalangists undermine the security situation, encouraged by Israel's preparation to attack Syria and the arrival of Reagan's envoy in Lebanon. They are, thereby, trying to foil any step achieved in the accord talks. Therefore, the Jerusalem cheering is a condemnation of such policies. It is a call for Arab support for Syria while facing the opponents of Lebanese national accord.

Syria has gained the sympathy of the Arab masses while conducting the confrontation crisis against the Israeli strategy in Lebanon. This sympathy has been expressed in different forms. It has reached the level of placing all resources at Syria's disposal, as announced by the leaders of some of the fraternal states. But the Jerusalem cheering in support of Syria's correct and sound policy has an additional meaning, namely, condemnation of the silence maintained by some of the Arabs, who have failed to define their position on a matter concerning the whole Arab nation not just Palestine and Syria. Furthermore, the Jerusalem cheering slights the attempts made by the regimes of Saddam Husayn and Anwar as-Sadat to undermind the Syrian role in Lebanon. The main significance of the Jerusalem cheering is that it stressed the fact that the Arab masses are with Syria's policy of confronting the enemy of the nation and against any policy of colluding with this enemy or conspiring against the confrontation trend.

TISHRIN CONDEMNS BEGIN'S KNESSET 'THREATS'

JN120835 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 12 May 81

[Press review]

[Text] Commenting in its "Behind the News" column under the headline "Begin's Threats and Washington's Responsibility," TISHRIN says: Terrorist Begin made a statement before the Knesset yesterday in which he addressed new threats to Syria.

In this statement he expressed the racist Zionist entity's spirit of aggression and adventurism which has confused the policy of the Israeli rulers, making them depend greatly on the threat to use force, or actual use of force, in achieving Israel's declared aims.

Begin did not just threaten war, but called upon Arab rulers to surrender to Israel. He called them to the occupied territory to surrender in the name of peace as Anwar as-Sadat did. In their statements before the Knesset, Begin and Peres agreed that military action would be inevitable if diplomatic efforts failed to achieve what Israel wants.

Begin's language and threats in the statement he made before the Knesset remind us very much of the provocative speeches Hitler used to make before waging war, or when contemplating aggression, on his neighbors. No matter how much of what Begin said is just electoral campaigning, Israel's record of aggression and military adventurism in the region make it incumbent upon us to watch for all possibilities, raise the state of alert to the maximum and take the necessary measures in all fields to make the aggressors pay a heavy price if they dare commit such an aggression.

The Israel rulers' demands and threats give us a very clear picture of the Zionist entity's aggressive nature and violation of the principles of the UN Charter and international law and norms. No matter how hard the Israeli rulers try to portray their inclination toward provocations and threats as a purely Israeli decision, the nature of the relationship between Israel and the United States and link and coordination between the policies of the two countries make it very difficult for us to accept such logic even for one moment. We cannot but link Israel's behavior with U.S. aims in the region in general and Syria in particular.

It is understandable for the Israeli and U.S. rulers to feel that time in the region is not in their favor after the series of setbacks suffered by U.S. strategy in the region, mainly, unanimous Arab rejection of the Camp David accords, the overthrow of the shah's regime and the failure of the United States to get the Arabs and Israel together in some form of hostile alliance against the Soviet Union. But it is difficult to believe that Israel would, alone, dare to embark on an adventure to achieve the impossible. It it also difficult to believe the excuse that the United States cannot stop the Israeli rulers from committing the crime of setting off war in the Middle East. Without extensive U.S. political, military and economic support, Israel cannot embark on any military venture. The October 1973 war has proved that the Israeli Army is not a legend nor an invincible giant. Were it not for the immediate U.S. intervention to save Israel, the Israeli military establishment, which was violently shaken, would have reached total collapse.

TISHRIN concludes: In any new adventure which Israel might contemplate in the interest of the United States, Syria and the Arabs would have the right to resort to all necessary and available ways and means to exercise their legitimate right of self-defense and to answer the aggressors in an appropriate manner, which will make them pay a very heavy price for their aggression. It is also the right of Syria and the Arabs to adopt the necessary firm attitude toward those who support aggression. We do not doubt that the United States knows that it is behind many of the instigations in the region and that the Arabs can deal with such instigations in accordance with the right of self-defense. No matter what is behind Begin's statements and threats, Syria, as leader Hafiz al-Asad said, is determined to resist the aggression. Syria knows how to repulse aggression and to turn it into defeat for the aggressors.

AL-KASM CHAIRS CIVIL DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING

JN111718 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Damascus--Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm chaired a meeting of the Higher Civil Defense Council at 1200 today.

The Higher Civil Defense Council reviewed the yearly civil defense programs carried out in all fields in light of the approved general plan. The council also discussed all the details pertaining to the methods of implementing these programs in a regular and comprehensive way. The council adopted a number of procedures to develop the work of civil defense and to achieve its aims in all fields.

KUNA Report

LD111732 Kuwait KUNA in English 1536 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Damascus, 11 May (KUNA)--Syria is making full preparations for a likely confrontation with Israel, informed sources here said Monday. Presided by Premier 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kash, Syria's Higher Civil Defence Council which met today was reported to have taken important steps to develop defence capabilities, those sources added.

KHADDAM, 'ARAFAT, LEBANESE DELEGATION MEET

JN101855 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] At 1700 today a meeting was held at the Foreign Ministry between 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. A delegation of the Lebanese National Movement was present. Discussions were held on the current situation in the Arab region in general and in Lebanon in particular.

PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE TO MEET ON 'ZIONIST ONSLAUGHT'

JN120708 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 12 May 81

[Excerpts] Damascus--The second session of the Permament Secretariat of the Arab People's Conference will begin in Damascus today. The discussion during this session will deal with the political situation on the Arab and international levels and the imperialist-Israeli threats against Syria, Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent upon his arrival in Damascus yesterday, Secretary General 'Umar al-Hamidi said that he came to attend the meetings of the Permanent Secretariat's second session and the joint session with the Secretariat of the World Conference for Solidarity With the Arab People and their central issue--Palestine. Al-Hamid added that the Permanent Secretariat had prepared plans which it will submit to the popular organizations attending the session so that they will assume their responsibilities of pooling Arab resources on all levels. He said that this session, which is of an organizational and political nature, aims at confronting the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary onslaught and seeking the best means by which the masses of our Arab nation can deal with this onslaught.

Al-Hamidi stressed that the holding of the second session in Damascus is an expression of our appreciation of the pan-Arab role played by Syria in supporting the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese National Movement. He concluded his statement by extending his greetings to and praising Syria--people and leadership--for its resistance of the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary onslaught. He expressed the hope that the present circumstances would make our people more determined and more capable of developing the means of pan-Arab struggle and would turn the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation and the Arab People's Conference into potent instruments for the Arab liberation movement in achieving the cherished Arab unity.

VOL REPORTS SOVIET CHIEF OF STAFF IN DAMASCUS

NC120730 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] Information available to the Voice of Lebanon indicates that the Soviet army chief of staff [as heard] has arrived in Damascus and held several meetings with the Soviet experts in Syria.

He also met with Syrian Army Chief of Staff Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi. The discussions dealt with drawing up a joint military plan to confront the developments arising from the missiles crisis between Syria and Israel. The information adds that the deputy Soviet chief of staff [as heard] has inspected the sites of the SAM bases.

ARAB COMMUNIST PARTIES' STATEMENT SUPPORTS SYRIA

JN101333 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] Beirut--The Arab communist parties have denounced the Israeli-U.S. threats against the Arab nation. They have also declared their solidarity with Syria in its rejection of and resistance against all forms of political, economic and military pressures which are exerted by the Zionist-U.S. alliance. These parties have also affirmed their support for the Palestinian resistance and the Lebanese National Movement.

A statement distributed by these parties in Beirut yesterday said that the Arab Deterrent Forces are legitimate forces and the measures which they take to defend their security come within their task of self-defense and the protection of Lebanon's independence. The statement called on the Arab states and forces to determine their stand in this fateful battle and to concentrate their efforts against the Zionist-U.S. enemy.

PARTY LEADER PRAISES SYRIAN PRESENCE IN LEBANON

JN102218 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] In Beirut In'am Ra'd, leader of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, said that the Arab Deterrent Forces, contrary to what is being propagated by Zionist media, are protecting the Maronite and Orthodox Christian north as well as a large part of the Maronite, Catholic and Orthodox Christian mountain area from the fascist Phalangist hegemony, which had led to massacres against thousands of Christians.

In a press article In'am Ra'd added that the best example of the Christians' tragedy under the armed Phalangist hegemony is what happened and is happening in Zahlah, captive of the fascist Phalangist militias. He stressed that the national accord efforts will continue and that the Lebanese National Movement considers national accord as the path of salvation for Lebanon from its predicament. It is also viewed in this manner by Syria and the Palestinian resistance.

PDRY ENVOY DELIVERS 'ALI NASIR MESSAGE 11 MAY

JN111256 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] At 1215 today President Hafiz al-Asad received 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau of the YSP in the PDRY, who conveyed to the president a message from his brother PDRY president, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The meeting was attended by Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

The discussion during this meeting dealt with the general situation in the Arab region and U.S.-backed Israeli threats and provocations. The president asserted Syria's steadfastness and determination to face all challenges. 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir affirmed that the PDRY--people, president and government--support Syria in its battle, the battle of all Arabs against aggression.

Departure Statement

JN111722 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 11 May 81

[Excerpts] Damascus--In a statement to a Syrian news agency correspondent before departing from Damascus this afternoon, the PDRY envoy, 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, praised the Syrian role in Lebanon.

He expressed the PDRY's complete support for Syria's heroic role in defending fraternal Lebanon and safeguarding the unity of its lands. 'Abd al-Qadir called on Arab brothers to stand by heroic Syria in its firm confrontation of aggression.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM ROMANIAN PRESIDENT

JN111727 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Syrian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Faruq ash-Shar' today received Grigore Comartin, Romanian ambassador in Damascus, who handed him a message addressed to President Hafiz al-Asad from Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, dealing with the developments in the recent situation in the region.

USSR OFFICIAL VIEWS RELATIONS; BEGINS TALKS

Ties Praised

JN081701 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Damascus--Khamdan Umarov, deputy chairman of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries, has praised the strong relations of friendship between Syria and the USSR against imperialism. In a statement he made upon his arrival in Damascus today, Umarov expressed his happiness over visiting Syria.

Solidarity Talks

JN091728 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 9 May 81

[Text] Damascus--Talks began here this morning between the Syrian Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries under Comrade Ahmad al-As'ad, deputy chairman of the committee, and the Soviet delegation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity With Asian and African Countries under Comrade Khamdam Umarov, deputy chairman of the committee.

Comrade al-As'ad stressed the importance of further promoting and bolstering the bonds of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the Soviet Union in order to serve the interests of the two friendly peoples.

Comrade al-As'ad pointed to the Zionist-imperialist-reactionary plots aimed against our militant country in order to weaken its steadfastness in the confrontation with the Zionist enemy. He added that the unity of our people and their nationalist powers under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad and our sincere struggle along with the various progressive powers, particularly with the friendly Soviet Union, are capable of foiling all kinds of plots and defeating all plotters.

Speaking at the meeting, Umarov reiterated that the Soviet Union, government, people and party, support Syria's struggle under President al-Asad's leadership against U.S. imperialism, Zionism and reaction. He underlined the importance of continuing the joint cooperation between the Soviet and the Syrian Committees for Solidarity with Asian and African countries in favor of the two friendly countries' struggle against world imperialism and Zionism.

BEGIN ADDRESSES KNESSET ON LEBANON, OTHER ISSUES

TA111653 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1407 GMT 11 May 81

[Address by Prime Minister Menahem Begin at the opening of the Knesset's summer session--live]

[Text] Mr Speaker, gentlemen members of the Knesset: three weeks ago the Christians in northern Lebanon were at the breaking point. The fighters, however, were not. They received Israeli-made weapons of the most important, effective and best kinds in the world. This order was given by the government led by MK Yitzhaq Rabin. The government under my leadership continued and even increased this vital aid. The Christian fighters in northern Lebanon as well as in southern Lebanon are good warriors, courageous and daring and they did not break down. The civilian population was facing a breakdown. The Syrians treated the civilians in Lebanon just as the Nazis treated the civilian population in Europe.

I will reiterate words I said on other occasions. In parentheses, I must add that a malicious man leaked from a certain state consultation a report that I had allegedly submitted, to the effect that I had said that the Syrians treated the Christians in Lebanon just as the Nazis treated the Jews. These words never came out of my mouth. I did not say them and I would not have conceived of saying them. To this entire generation I repeat: ever since God created man and man created the devil there were no more acts of cruelty and horror against the Jews in Europe as the ones perpetrated by the Germans during the National Socialist regime. However, I did say against the civilian population. Zahlah just as Coventry, Beirut as Rotterdam. I saw the [word indistinct] with my own eyes... [heckling by MK Tawfiq Tubi of Hadash; Knesset speaker intervenes, saying that there will be announcements on behalf of the factions during which they will have the chance to say whatever they want to say and asking that the speaker not be disturbed].

MK Tubi, because both of us have been members of the Knesset since the first Knesset and up to date, please give me freedom to speak. I thank you for the favor you just did me. I repeat, because both of us have been members of the first Knesset--Tawfiq Tubi, Dr Burg and myself, the only three Knesset members who have served the house from the first Knesset uninterruptedly, without even missing 1 day--for the sake of this, I told him [Tubi]: Give me freedom of speech and he conceded. So, I thanked him for the favor he did me. [further heckling] I will soon listen to you. You also have the right to speak. However, I think I have the same right you have--neither more nor less.

Well, as I was saying, the civilian population in northern Lebanon was at the breaking point. The Syrians bombarded them with cannons with a 40-km range. The heaviest Soviet cannons--they bombarded Zahlah and Beirut. Houses collapsed and buried the victims under the debris. Men, women and children--there was no pity; there were no hospitals; there was no water; there was not enough bread. Most of the Christians in Beirut fled to the mountains. From Zahlah it was even impossible to escape because the Syrians surrounded them with tanks, cannons and other weapons. The number of victims in Zahlah alone reached over 500. There were over 1,000 wounded. As we heard from first-hand sources, the day came when they could no longer resist. I heard a realistic story about a room in which 50 men, women and children were living because they thought this room would protect them. How long can 50 creatures breathe in one room? Therefore, there was a danger that the Lebanese Christian citizens would break down about 3 weeks ago.

Then, we decided not to stand aside. We acted: Our air force downed two helicopters--had there been 10 helicopters there they would all have been shot down. Then, the flights of these helicopters stopped. These helicopters flew over the Sannin heights and killed the Christians--time and again, they brought over soldiers and arms, Syrian commandos.

Since then, a drastic change has occurred. According to confirmed information in our possession, one may say that the Israeli operation that day saved the Christians in Lebanon from a total moral breakdown which would have enabled the Syrians to take over the entire area of northern Lebanon and, then, move south. [heckling by MK Walid Hajj Yihyah of SHELI]

I will ask you not to interrupt me. You are a very new Knesset member? [Knesset speaker again asks that speaker not be disturbed; heckling continues]

In this context, when we saved the Christians on the day of the largest crisis they have undergone in the last 5 years, I want to explain to the Knesset our moral commitment toward them as I believe it to be:

I am hereby announcing that, in my belief, we have a moral commitment to assure that the Christians in Lebanon--both in the north and in the south--should not be annihilated and should not be destroyed by any enemy. I know that there are those who differ over this opinion--I insist on it. I think that this is the reason why we are both Jews and Zionists.

When Herzl started the organ of the World Zionist Federation he named it HA'OLAM [THE WORLD], not even Zion, in order to emphasize the universal character of our movement, the movement for the freedom of Israel. When Herzl wrote his book he noted that one day when we have our own Jewish state it will act toward liberating the blacks [in Africa]. He wrote these words in the 19th century. One could have asked: What is the liberation of the blacks to us? [heckling]

What is the matter? Did I say a nonparliamentarian? You will not detour me by even one iota with your heckling. It will not help you in the least. Mr Wilner, are you already awake? Have you returned from Moscow? Welcome! [heckling]

Mr Speaker, this is impossible. [Knesset speaker again implores Knesset members not to interrupt] This is impossible. Anyone with a big mouth opens it when I speak. Am I disturbing anyone? [Knesset speaker repeats his plea]

Judaism is both national and universal; it is its nature and character. Thus, the prophesy on the end of days states: And all the peoples will flow to the mountain of God. The historian and philosopher Professor Klausner also spoke about Judaism and Humanitarianism in this way. We could not stand aside. Nothing humane is alien to us and therefore we will continue to protect the Christian minority lest it be exterminated. [heckling by MK Walid Hajj, followed by appeal by Knesset speaker for quiet]

However, while we do not recognize the famous formula of (?sacro egonismo), we are aware of our national security interest and we will fulfill it. I will now explain this interest. I will submit a report to the Knesset on the number of missiles introduced into Lebanon and on the Lebanese-Syrian border.

Well, in Lebanon proper there are today five SAM-6 batteries. On the border there are four additional SAM-6 batteries. On the Syrian-Lebanese border there are already two SAM-2 batteries--until the day before yesterday there was only one battery of this type. On the Lebanese-Syrian border this morning there were already two SAM-3 batteries. Until the day before yesterday there was one battery of this type there. There are also SAM-9's, which were brought into Lebanon by the Libyans and are also operated by the Libyans. Altogether, there are 14 batteries of surface-to-air missiles.

On Thursday, 30 April, according to the authority bestowed on me by the government, I ordered the chief of staff to destroy the three SAM-6 batteries in Lebanon. The time of the operation was set at 1100. At 1030 I was told that the weather would not allow the operation. We set the time for 1300. At 1230 I was told that the weather did not allow for carrying out the operation. We set the operation for 1500. A short while before that time, I was again told that the weather would not allow the implementation of the operation. We postponed the operation to the following day. [heckling by MK Tubi wondering if Begin will continue this policy]

Yes, I will continue on this way and I will not learn about national responsibility either from Mecca or from you. [heckling, followed by appeal by Knesset speaker]

On 1 May--what does the lovely lady want? [heckling] The communists want peace in Afghanistan, is it not so? [heckling, followed by plea by Knesset speaker for quiet]

On 1 May I received a message from U.S. Secretary of State Haig. [heckling by Alignment MK]

Mr Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism of the Alignment, I promise you, you will continue to be the Alignment's minister of commerce, industry and tourism.

I received a message from Secretary of State Haig asking for a respite for exhausting the political process. I called a meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs for Friday morning. Following an in-depth debate, we decided to accede to this U.S. request. I informed the U.S. ambassador about it and we calculated the days because the decision stated that due to the danger that further surface-to-air missile batteries would be massed, we decided that this respite would last 3 to 4 days, until Monday evening. We announced that if the Americans bring us a commitment by the Syrian Government to pull out the missiles, we would be ready to wait another 7 days until their commitment has been realized.

In the meantime, further missiles were introduced. On Tuesday morning, the U.S. ambassador asked to see me urgently and brought me a personal message from President Reagan. Of course, I cannot divulge its contents. However, I must tell the Knesset that for years no Israeli government had received such a friendly message from any U.S. President. [heckling by various Knesset members]

Why are you so nervous? The recent poll made you so nervous? Why can you not listen in patience?

In contrast, I am entitled to tell both the Knesset and the nation several sentences included in my reply to President Reagan. I will read them from the original, as I wrote them: "And what, indeed, is the danger in addition to all else, when our pilots embark to do what they have to do for the sake of our most vital interests, for our security that is an integral part of the security of the Free World. Some of them may be downed, killed or taken prisoner. If any of them fall to captivity, they will suffer the most cruel torture which, sometimes, the most valiant soldier of the battle game is incapable of withstanding. I speak, Mr President, in the name of experience. These are dangerous risks we take upon ourselves by accepting a further delay of action which we do in consideration of your personal request. As you see, Mr President, we do not anticipate and suggest any dates. But, it is my duty, responsible as we are for the lives of our citizens and soldiers, to emphasize that it cannot but be a relatively short period of time. I must add that the responsibility which we take upon ourselves [words indistinct due to heckling] and the risks involved are awesome. Yet, as I have already said, we have decided to inform you that your representative has, from our point of view, additional time to try the diplomatic route." [passage within quotation marks in English]

Additional time was given to exhaust the diplomatic process. In about 2 hours, I will meet with President Reagan's envoy, Mr Philip Habib [Hebrew for "nice"], who really stands up to his name: a wise and dedicated man. We will hear from him about his visits in Beirut and in Damascus and about his talks with Muslims and Christians in Beirut in particular as well as on his talks with the Syrian foreign minister and President al-Asad. After we hear him, we will tell him what we told President Reagan in order to avoid any misunderstanding.

With the permission of the speaker, I now want to make a personal call to the Syrian president: Let us talk as enemy-to-enemy. I did not choose this formulation. About 4 years ago, when I presented the new government to the Knesset, I appealed to Egyptian President as-Sadat, to Jordanian King Husayn and to Syrian President al-Asad and invited them to come to Jerusalem, or to confer with them in their capitals or in a neutral place, either in the open or without publicity, in order to talk about peace. Out of all of them, only one came to Jerusalem and we talked peace and we made peace. It is self-understood that there are fundamental differences regarding each of Israel's borders. We, however, want peace with all our neighbors. Therefore, that was the call I made. Now, as I have said, since the Syrian president refused to come, he is in a state of war with Israel and he has announced that he would lead other Arabs--especially those who left Eretz Yisra'el, because they tried to liquidate us and did not succeed in doing so--into the battle for Israel's destruction. Thus, I have no other choice but to talk to him as an enemy talks to his enemy.

My first appeal will be: Let the Jews in your country go. Why should you hold them hostage? After all, they are only 3,000 to 4,000 persons, the remnants of a huge community that contributed such a great deal to Israel's culture. They want to leave for freedom, yet you hold them in a ghetto, in fear. Why do this to them? Almost all the Arab countries--even Iraq led by a blood-shedding tyrant who killed his best friends with his own bare hands in order to take over his country--have let the Jews go. Howver, you still keep 4,000 men, women and children in a ghetto and you do not let them go. There are countries today which have learned some moral lesson from the 1930's and 1940's. Australia and Canada are willing to accept them. Why should you continue to keep them in fear, in a ghetto and as hostages? Let them go. This is my first humane appeal.

And this is my second appeal: President of Syria, Mr al-Asad, you went to what is called in English brinkmanship [last word in English]. Come back. Step back. It will not detract from your honor. God forbid, we do not want to humiliate you. This will be accredited to your honor, because you will serve peace. There is no greater honor than to serve the cause of peace. Therefore, go away from the end of the abyss, remove the missiles from where they are; they do not belong in the place they are. Instruct your destructive soldiers to resume the status quo ante and all of humanity will be obliged to you. This is my appeal to you, with sincerity, frankness, without hiding any facts, just as an enemy speaks to his enemy. Return the status quo ante in Lebanon and everything will come back to its natural state in peace. [heckling by MK Tawfiq Tubi]

God forbid, if this appeal is not heeded I will have to emphasize our national security interest. Anyone who takes over the Sannin hills and the Lebanese skies will take over all of Lebanon up to the Lebanese-Israeli border. There is no doubt about it. Israel will then face a problem of existence and the war will then be inevitable, but under the worst conditions, as far as Israel is concerned. Therefore, we must give a chance to anyone showing good will who wants to solve this problem through diplomatic means--he must be given the chance. However, under no circumstances will we tolerate these missiles and the takeover of the mountain, since whoever takes it over would be taking over the entire country. Anyone looking at the map will realize this; thus our concern, anxiety and our decisions in the past and, if necessary in the future as well.

I want to congratulate the head of the opposition, MK Shim'on Peres, for announcing--following a meeting with me and Chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Moshe Arens--that, indeed, the diplomatic process should be exhausted. However, if this process does not bear any results, one should not be deterred from using military measures in order to neutralize the missiles. On this issue there is today national consensus. [heckling by various Knesset members; speaker calls for order]

We do not need you for this national consensus; we did not ask for your agreement. Mr Wilner, why should you shout? Go to the big hall in Moscow and be applauded. [heckling by MK Wilner, calling Begin a warmonger; Knesset speaker calls for order]

I will not raise my voice to overpower MK Wilner. This is the Knesset and it should be honored. One should speak here with mutual respect. Where did all these screams come from? What do you think they can achieve for you? Do you have a constituency at all? You should be grateful to MK Tawfiq Tubi for your seat. National consensus on this issue is very important and it exists, and we do not need certain factions for it. Both the government and the main opposition and other factions do not need you at all to achieve a consensus. [heckling by MK Shulamit Aloni]

Did I speak about you? I just do not want the communists. Please, you are invited to join the consenses, with all due respect. [heckling by MK Tubi; Knesset speaker calls for order]

You have never been to the places I have been in Russia. I do know what the need for communists is. The communists are needed for Angola, Mozambique, Ethiopia--the communists need these places. Northern Yemen--the communists need this. I know what the communists need but you will not get it. [Knesset speaker calls for order; heckling by MK CHarlie Biton]

Mr Speaker, with your permission, I will proceed to the relations between the State of Israel and the United States of America. These days, we have points of agreement between the Government of Israel and the U.S. administration as follows: First, both nations are allies. When the secretary of state visited here, at a meeting held jointly with him and his advisers, we made it clear to him that we do not like the term strategic asset [last phrase in English] If this means the opposite of a strategic burden [phrase in English], that is all right, but what is an asset [word in English]? This is some kind of commercial term. Therefore, we told him: In our opinion, we are friends and allies.

That same evening, the foreign minister hosted the secretary of state at a dinner and, before many and the American people, as well as all other nations, the secretary of state said that America and Israel are allies and maintain a permanent alliance [last two words in English, followed by translation by Begin into Hebrew]. We were glad about this expression. We agree that both our countries are in a permanent alliance.

The second joint point is: the position concerning the role played by Syria in Lebanon. The United States and Israel agree that Syria is no longer an expeditionary force to implement peace or a stabilizing army. Indeed, both countries believe this.

Third, there is a joint opinion on the terrorist organizations.

Fourth, active opposition to these bloody terrorist organizations wherever they are.

Fifth, oppositon to the expansion of Soviet imperialism throughout the world, and particularly in the Middle East.

These are the five points agreed upon between us and the United States. and I can say that I cannot remember a time when there was such deep and wide agreement between our two nations.

However, there is a problem: the U.S. administration of today, despite its being more friendly than many of its predecessors, has decided to sell Saudi Arabia offensive accessories for the F-15 as well as those aircraft called the AWACS, which are the most sophisticated surveillance aircraft in the world. Or Perhaps the Soviets have such, but I have no information about this. We unconditionally oppose the U.S.-Saudi deal. Let me describe the danger presented by the offensive accessories, especially the additional [fuel] pods that will be mounted on the F-15's. Today the F-15's are stationed in the eastern part of Saudi Arabia. But who would be able to stop them, one night, from landing in Tabuk--the military base--beyond the Shlomo Gulf [southern tip of the Sinai peninsual], literally opposite Elat and, another day or at another hour, take off from Tabuk toward Israel? Today, without... [interrupted by heckling by MK Moshe Shamir; Knesset speaker calls for order]

Well, then, they could literally be opposite Elat, but the F-15's flight range is relatively short. If those aircraft receive the additional fuel pods, they will be able to reach Tel Aviv and return to Saudi Arabia without landing in the middle or refuelling on the way. This is a direct danger to the civilian population in the center of Eretz Yisra'el.

As for the AWACS, if the Saudis received them, we would be transparent in all our moves in the air and on the ground. There were some honorable, important Americans who gave us a simple advice: What do you actually care? You have such a wonderful air force? If they appraoch the Israeli border--that is, to Tabuk, for example--you will simply shoot them down. At the same time, we are being told that for many years after the AWACS are supplied to Saudi Arabia, they will be manned by Saudis and Americans. What kind of strange advice is this from Washington? Should we down an aircraft and kill not the Saudis, who are our enemeis? Of course, if we intercept an aircraft with Saudis on board, they will most probably be killed--and this is the common practice in any act of war--but will we have to kill Americans too? Our friends? This is a very strange piece of advice which we cannot accept.

We were given another suggestion: What do you care? We will only give them the AWACS in 5 years. What, then, what after 5 years? Does a nation live on loaned time? Even 5 years pass. The deal now is one entity; its two parts cannot be separated. Therefore, the danger...[heckling by MK Ge'ula Kohen; Knesset speaker calls for order]

MK Kohen, I take upon myself responsibility for everything. Everything is on me.

Well, then, after 5 years--what sort of consolation is this? Does a nation live on a period of 5 years loaned to it? What then? Therefore, we announce that we will continue to object, unconditionally, to the U.S.-Saudi deal. Anyone who says that this must lead to a confrontation between America and the State of Israel--this is not so. There is no confrontation. We are friends and allies but sometimes even among allies an issue arises over which opinions differ. This is that issue.

I therefore have the honor to announce, Mr Speaker, that we will continue to act against this U.S.-Saudi deal, which endangers the safety of the Jewish people in Israel. The administration has not yet submitted the necessary announcement to the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Once it has been there will still be 50 days to submit a resolution of disagreement. In the Senate and in the House of Representatives, too, grave and serious objection has arisen to this deal. I will say unhesitatingly that we will appeal to all our friends in the United States and will also ask the legislature to reconsider this matter and not give its consent to the deal. I also have the honor to appeal to our great friend President Reagan to reconsider this matter himself and not to approach the House of Representatives and the Senate at all, and thus a serious danger to a country which he truly wants to help and extend aid toward maintaining its safety and well-being can be avoided.

I would like to add one more comment: Shaykh Zaki Yamani has visited the United States and told a poor joke about a camel and a mouse. We will not be able to argue over this with him. We will not descend to this level. However, he afterward returned to his country, and from there he issued a statement that the real danger in the Middle East is not the Soviet Union but Israel; Israel is the real danger in the Middle East. If that is so, against whom will all these dangerous weapons be directed--these sophisticated arms supplied to Saudi Arabia? Certainly against the real danger, called Israel, not against the Soviet Union, as someone said--the AWACS together with the F-15's with their offensive gear. Today the situation is absolutely clear and all our American friends--I am sure of this--will exert themselves to allow us to live in safety and peace.

On the other hand, there is an arms race in the Middle East the likes of which there has never been--from East and West alike; and all of them compete as to who will supply more arms. It was only yesterday that we got information that the Austrian chancellor, Mr Kreisky, has sold 400 Austrian-made tanks to Saudi Arabia. However, his initial intention was to sell Saudi Arabia 100 tanks, but the owner of the company manufacturing those tanks said--probably with great glee--that if the Saudis buy something, they buy it big. Certainly, they have billions of dollars. I have received first-hand information that one prince received, some months ago, a check written out for $2 billion for a piece of land where oil was found. Some $7 billion have been divided among the 4,000 princes [in Saudi Arabia]. It is a corrupt country through and through, yet the German chancellor, too, said that it is the most important ally of Germany after the United States and the NATO countries. Well, then, with largesse: what are 100 tanks? Rather, buy 400 tanks from Austria. That same Austria which, on Anschluss day forced all the Jewish women in Vienna--no, almost all the women--to take a little rag and wipe the streets or the sidewalks. That Austria about which many have said was worse--if that is at all possible--than Germany during the times of the Holocaust. The country of Eichmann is the one selling arms to Saudi Arabia, headed by the proud Jew, Mr Bruno Kreisky. He is also a member of the Second [Socialist] International. [heckling by various Knesset members] All right, make friends with him, if you wish.

Mr Speaker, I would like to proceed to another part regarding the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and the statements made by Dr Ghali, the minister of state for foreign affairs. He said that the defense pacts between Egypt and the Arab countries are more important than the peace treaty with Egypt. He, in fact, also announced that if, God forbid, some kind of war breaks out between Israel and an Arab country, there is the possibility--even though he later retracted these statements, he nevertheless said them--that Egypt will stand by the Arab country.

I would like to wonder from the Knesset podium how an intelligent and well-educated man representing Egypt can say things that totally contradict the peace treaty.

In article 6-B we determined together that the parties undertake to fulfill--I will read the original so that we do not lose time: [begin passage in English] The parties undertake to fulfill in good faith their obligations under this treaty, without regard to action or inaction or any other party and independently of any instrument external to this treaty. [end passage in English] And it says in article 6-E: [begin passage in English] Subject to article I-3 of the UN Charter, in the event of a conflict between the obligations of the parties under the present treaty and any of their other obligations, the obligations under this treaty will be binding and implemented. [end passage in English] Later on the Egyptians changed their minds about these two articles and tried to have them revoked but they did not succeed. President Carter visited the Middle East and even before that I went to the United States and declared that if these two articles are taken back, we will not sign the peace treaty, because then it would be bereft of content.

Ultimately, with the consent of all the parties concerned, we agreed to write this, in addition to the peace treaty: [begin passage in English] The provisions of article 6 shall not be construed in contradiction to the provisions of the framework for peace in the Middle East agreed at Camp David. The foregoing is not to be construed as contravening the provisions of article 6-2 of the treaty, which reads as follows [end passage in English] And we repeated, verbatim, what I read to you just now. And still further down it says: [begin passage in English] It is agreed by the parties that there is no assertion that this treaty prevails over other treaties. [end passage in English] There is no superiority of this treaty over other treaties and, later on: [begin passage in English] or that other treaties or agreements prevail over this treaty.

The foregoing is not to be construed as contravening the provisions of article 6-5 of the treaty, which reads as follows [end passage in English] and again we repeated, word for word, what I read to you.

I would, therefore, like to say... [heckling by MK Ge'ula Kohen]

I hope Mr Ghali made this amazing statement without the knowledge or consent of President as-Sadat, and I hope Mr Ghali himself reaches the conclusion--as I expressed it--and knows what was distinctly written and signed on in the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

The Sinai multinational force: We have--and I hereby declare from the Knesset podium--told the Americans, who told the Egyptians, that since it is impossible to establish a UN force due to the Soviet veto, in accordance with an identical letter sent by President Carter on behalf of the United States to President as-Sadat and to myself, an agreed upon multinational force will be established. Yes, a multinational force. It has to be a serious force, a real force. A force, not observers, in the north and the south [of the Sinai Peninsula] to maintain Israel's security and maintain freedom of passage through the Tiran Strait. Therefore, we have announced that this letter addressed to President as-Sadat and myself has become an inseparable part of the peace treaty and this force should be established at the latest and also activated by March 1982. If it is not established, we will continue to stand on the Ra's Muhammad-Al-'Arish line. We will not move from it unless that multinational force is established and this will be in accordance with the peace treaty.

Mr Speaker, today there is tension in the Middle East. There is currently a crisis in the Middle East. I would like to express my hope that despite everything, everyone will act reasonably and a war will not break out, a war which no one wants and no one should be anxious to have. We do not want war with any Arab country; we want peace with all our neighbors and we will do everything to establish that peace and so that war is prevented.

With this good hope, I thank you, Mr Speaker, and the Knesset members for their attention to my words.

PERES ADDRESSES KNESSET ON POLITICAL ISSUES

TA111842 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1512 GMT 11 May 81

[Address to the Knesset by Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres--live]

[Text] Mr Speaker, honorable Knesset: Israel has not sought isolation but has known it, despite the fact that the United Nations decided to establish it, even though the Arabs attacked us; an embargo was imposed on us even by those who had supported the establishment of the state. We tried to break out of the ring of isolation. As part of this effort, in the early 1950's I met the leader of the Socialist Party in France, Guy Mollet--and I would advise Mr Menahem Begin not to minimize the socialists, many of whom--[replying to a Begin interjection] depends where, but that holds true for non-socialists as well. Guy Mollet was, at that time, in the opposition. [Begin makes indistinct interjection]

Thanks for the information. I am completely enthralled by the story you are telling me. Guy Mollet, who was in the opposition, promised to help us if and when he assumed power. In my distress, I told him: You like us when in the opposition but forget us when in power. Guy Mollet replied: You will see that we will act differently. And, indeed, when he reached power, he invited me to Hotel Matignon--the prime minister's office--and one of the best and most beneficial chapters in the relations between France and Israel began. That chapter continued for 12 consecutive years and most of the arms we received--which we used during the Sinai campaign and in the 6-day war--came from France. The French have helped us establish the aricraft industries, the research reactor in Dimona. They sided with us during the Sinai campaign and on other international fronts. In 1967 De Gaulle changed this policy. Since then, cold has blown on French-Israeli relations.

Yesterday, for the first time in the Fifth Republic, a French president was elected who is a socialist and a true friend of the people of Israel, the State of Israel, the Labor movement, and--I take this liberty--to myself, personally. About an hour ago I talked to him over the telephone and I heard again words of friendship and sincerity toward Israel and its problems.

[Replying to indistinct interjection by a Knesset member from the floor] I will not list the countries, a list which you do or do not have. Believe me, I do not do this in foreign policy. I do not like it. I have a lot to say, regarding with whom we have relations, with whom we do not, and about the sort of relations we have. Yet I do not say it. Others say it.

I hope this choice will once again make possible the opening of a new chapter in French-Israeli relations, and, moreover, in European-Israeli relations.

Some people among us erase Europe with the breath of their mouths and forsake it to PLO propaganda. This is not wise. The truth is that Europe needs us because without us there will not be an arrangement in the Middle East and we need it because we want to be incorporated into the Common Market's economy. We also send messengers to all the countries that are members of the Common Market, asking them for money and aid. We are interested--and this government, too, is doing it--that all of Europe take a constructive position in the peace-making process in the Middle East.

In his book, "Ici and Maintenant," Mitterrand related the conversations we had held. When he asked me about a homeland for the Palestinians, he wrote that Shim'on Peres and his colleagues answered him that a Palestinian state already exists and it is called Jordan. And he added: Look at the map of Israel. It is difficult not to understand its concern. I made it clear to Mitterrand--and this seems to be something that is difficult to make clear here--that we will, under no circumstances, conduct negotiations with the PLO, which hopes to annihilate Israel and also undermine the regime in Jordan. I told him we regard the establishment of an additional Palestinian state as a real danger to the existence of Israel through the annexation of another 1.3 million Arab inhabitants. In spite of them--and this is this government's policy: Not a Palestine in Israel and no Palestinization of Israel. [Alignment's policy] Generations of toil and unceasing sacrifices will have been in vain if, instead of the Jewish democratic state, we find ourselves in a binational state--which it is doubtful whether it could live in peace with itself.

I told him we insist on defensible borders, on the fact that the defense of the country must begin with the Jordan [River] and that Jerusalem must remain united as Israel's capital. Mitterrand did not accept all of my views but on some important points we reached an understanding: that Israel has a right to defensible, recognized borders and that in order to maintain its security it has the right to receive the necessary means to maintain it.

He agreed with me that the supply of nuclear capability to Iraq was one of the gravest things as far as Israel's safety and regional peace were concerned. And he promised me that he will publicly and actively work to prevent it. Indeed, he began this already in the French election campaign. He agreed that Europe should not be allowed to become a pro-Arab, anti-Israel continent. I personally believe that his election makes possible the opening of a new dialogue with all of Europe, as France is a central power on that continent.

Mr Speaker, I do not share the Likud's policy, which in fact expresses joy over being an orphan: the whole world is against us; therefore we are against everyone. Good for me, I am an orphan.

Orphanhood is not a policy, despite the fact that it sounds nice in enthusiastic and blown-up speeches. The Alignment believes that a balanced and initiating Israeli policy, while guaranteeing Israel's security needs, might improve Israel's standing in Europe, in the Middle East, and in the United States.

Mr Speaker, I heard what the prime minister said about the United States. It was a precise description. On everything but the AWACS we see eye-to-eye--you know, you did not read the U.S. President's letter, nor did I read it. I did, however, read your response, and I gathered from your reply that you do not see eye-to-eye. Otherwise, why would you need to explain to him what you did? Do you see eye-to-eye regarding the territories? Even though we are on the eve of elections and you are permitted to do everything, the same as Aridor, and paint everything pink, beautifully, as though the entire world is with us--you do this when you need it, on the eve of elections. Did you, from this podium, give a precise description of Israeli-U.S. relations? Is that so? Did you always have very good talks? Was Carter as good as Jabotinsky? Was everything beautiful? When you came back after [your meeting in] Ismailia, you said: This is the happiest day of my life. Do you not remember this? All your days are happy days! All the talks are good by you! At any rate, we would like to hear a balanced and calculating prime minister.

Our policy differs totally from that of the Likud. And, Mr Prime Minister, we do not have a consensus on most issues at hand, except for those issues limited to Israel's security--as I will specify. I would ask you not to create the wrong impression. We have no consensus regarding the policy toward Lebanon, either. We distinguish between your enthusiastic rhetoric and a clear definition of what should and what should not be done regarding Lebanon. Our policy toward Lebanon is based on a political and a security dimension, and please do not mix the two. As for the political dimension, one cannot ignore the historic and political errors that have hurt our friends the Maronites--a courageous and resourceful tribe. The historic problem of the Maronites began during the San Remo conference in April 1920, when Syria and Lebanon were handed over to a French mandate, and the French high commissioner declared the establishment of greater Lebanon. Between 1864 and 1914 the Maronites were the largest sect in the Lebanon hills, enjoying autonomy under the oppressing Turkish rule. However, when the French expanded the borders of Lebanon and annexed the Sunnites near Tripoli to it--by the way, against their will--as well as the Shi'ites [word indistinct], the Maronite sect began losing its relative size and today it is a minority in their own country. At present the situation is that not all the inhabitants of Lebanon, Mr Prime Minister, are Christians, and not all the Christians are members of the same denomination or have one opinion. The Christians, and they alone, should decide what kind of Lebanon they want: a divided Lebanon in which they will be majority, or a united Lebanon, in which they will be a minority. They ought to decide, and we should help them achieve their goal with those means that one nation can extend to one another--clearly defined measures: in arms, in training, in financial aid, in political support. However, just as we are not allowed to decide for them, so we cannot fight for them. Therefore, I was astonished to hear various general, sweeping declarations--enthusiastic and arousing, but nevertheless incorrect--voiced by the prime minister.

On Mabat [television newsreel] on 30 April, it was reported that you had sent a message to [U.S. Secretary of State] Haig saying that Israel will not allow the Christians in Lebanon to become something like the European Jews of the 1940's. The report was not denied. In the Tel Aviv Mann Auditorium, you talked about--and I heard it on the radio, and I will not cite other sources--the fact that the fate of the Christians in Lebanon in 1981 is like the fate of the Jews in Germany in 1940. This was not denied. There is nothing like the Holocaust that afflicted our people by the Nazi animal, throughout the history of human kind. If it is true and correct that there is genocide in the Nazi sense of the word [in Lebanon], will the downing of two Syrian helicopters solve the problem? Mr Begin again made a sweeping, general imprecise declaration that the stationing of long-range artillery on the Sannin hills will endanger Al-Juniyah.

I would like to ask you: Will short-range Syrian artillery, stationed a few km away from Al-Juniyah, not endanger Al-Juniyah? Does it make any difference to you if they shoot from a range of 3 km or 40 km? The prime minister, of a balanced, modern country--not merely emotional--in 1981 must make it clear to the people to what he is referring when he says that Israel defends not only itself, but another people as well. Will the IDF fight instead of the Lebanese Army? Tell things clearly! And what kind of a war will it fight? Only against the Syrians or also against the Muslims? Do we wan. peace only with the Christians, but not with the Muslims? This clarification is important not only for Israel, but also for the Christians. War is not a mere pittance. We must not delude others or compel ourselves by way of generalizations and enthusiasm, which carry no policy, clarity, or reservations. We asked no people to fight in our place, and we are asking no nation to invite us to fight for it. We are no partners to these declarations, which create a groundless impression either in our national consensus or in the expectations of our Christian friends. Help? Yes, any time, but after good thought and with a clear definition.

Lebanon has also been suffering from a Syrian conquest, a conquest camouflaged as a force aimed at establishing peace in the name of the Arab world since 5 years ago, and has also been suffering from erosion by the PLO. The Arab countries which allegedly support the PLO do not want the PLO in their midst. Saudi Arabia has been donating money, Syria has been giving instructions, Jordan has been making declarations, but neither Saudi Arabia, Syria nor Jordan want the PLO inside them, because they know this has a price Israel will force them to pay for it. They chose Lebanon as their victim. This country has been chosen to suffer the Syrian conquest and the PLO's terrorism, whereas they shed crocodile tears for its fate.

This situation has also created a defense dimension in the framework of our relations with Lebanon. Lebanon can accept or reject hosting the PLO in it, but Israel will never permit the PLO terrorism to penetrate Israel from Lebanon. Israel is not only allowed, but has an obligation, to hurry and foil any attempt of PLO penetration, or a Katyusha volley directed at its settlements and residents regardless of the location of the international border.

Mr Speaker, Knesset and Knesset members, Israel will similarly not be able to reconcile itself to the progress of the Syrian Army toward it. In effect, a southern Lebanon region has been created, headed currently by a Lebanese patriot, Major Haddad, who is the prime representative of free Lebanon. We stood by his side, and will continue to do so.

We have made it clear to the Syrians that Israel will not be able to accept any sort of violation of the aerial freedom necessary for us to find out, in time, any unforeseen danger to our security. We do not want a war with Syria. All our wars with Syria began with Syrian initiative and aggression. It was not us who began these wars. But neither do we intend to accept the existence of missile bases in Al-Biqa', intended to constitute a threat to the Israeli deterrence zone. We must exhaust all the diplomatic ways to make it clear to the Syrians that Israel is determined not to reconcile itself to this dangerous formation. There is no Israeli that his to soothe the Syrians and tell them that we will make do with words only. At the same time, I do not think that the Herut conference is the right place to insert our air force. This has never been before. Does one, in the Herut convention, discuss whether it was the air force, or the artillery, or the armored corps? Is this the place where such cries should be voiced? This is something that merits decisionmaking in a different place, in a different way and in a different style.

I would also like to tell the Knesset--and I am obligated to say it--that the prime minister did not consult with us regarding the helicopters [downed by the Israeli Air Force]. This created a different situation in Al-Biqa', and I am cautious in choosing my words. Neither did he tell us that he intended to shell, or bomb, these missiles. Nor do we know why he related this today. Was this necessary? The clouds, the aircraft, the days, the dates--what was it good for? Tomorrow the entire world will know about it.

I believe in Israel's power; I believe in its justice. I am aware of its constraints. I believe that it has the power to ward off a military threat, and is also capable of enforcing a political initiative as appropriate, in the right style, with no unnecessary fanfares and calls day and night during such a difficult period, when one expects the prime minister to take action to unite the people. Yet nevertheless, every day you abuse this person and another, hurt this person and offend another. What for? This is a serious period for the people and the state--raise yourself above. Do not retract to become the leaders of scooters [as heard]. There are things. There are things, mainly in the field of security, that are no business for the government and the opposition separately--provided there is prior, balanced and responsible dialogue--and we will honor such a dialogue. But you were offended by the [events in the] Mimuna, so you did not tell [the opposition] about the helicopters. There are matters about which we shall march forward with the flag of the Labor Party, of the Alignment, raised up high: a truly Jewish state, democratic in effect and in reality, a real working country, a country of wise doing, a state where a word is worth a penny, but silence--a country capable of defending itself in secure borders honorably and responsibly.

11 MAY DEBATE ON LEBANON ENDS WITHOUT CONSENSUS

TA112017 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 11 May 81

[Report by Knesset correspondent Mikha Limor--live]

[Excerpt] The political debate on the situation in Lebanon began with a bang but ended a short time ago with a whimper. A vote was not taken on whether to adopt the government's line or to support the Alignment's alternate position. The vote was postponed to a later date, presumably tomorrow. The reason: The NRP members are busy in Tel Aviv composing their list for the next Knesset and Labor Party members are attending an elections rally in Jerusalem.

The debate at the Knesset was overshadowed by the fact that there is no agreement--there is no consensus between the large factions regarding the handling of the Lebanese crisis. The Likud thinks that a limited time should be awarded for removing the missiles which should be followed by a military option. The Alignment calls for continuing the political negotiations and calls on the prime minister to refrain from making bellicose statements. Different opinions were heard on the sidelines of the big parties, ranging from an open accusation by Wadash and Sheli that Israel and the government were responsible for the crisis to a call by MK Asaf Yaguri to immediately appoint Ari'el Sharon as defense minister. Shinuy and Mapam condemned the prime minister for disclosing security and political secrets and for a clumsy handling of the crisis since its inception. One of the last speakers, Moshe Dayan, said that the debate was sterile since it was being held before the proposals brought by U.S. Philip Habib were made known. The debate has ended. The Knesset will make an unambiguous decision tomorrow.

HABIB ARRIVES WITH 'NO PRACTICAL RESULTS'

TA111955 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Amid the debate at the Knesset, President Reagan's envoy, Philip Habib, today conferred with Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Habib arrived in Israel this afternoon. Our political correspondent reports that circles in Jerusalem have determined that Habib arrived in Israel carrying no practical results from his talks in Beirut and Damascus and that he will ask the prime minister for an additional respite to try and find a solution to the missile crisis. Our political correspondent, Elimelekh Ram, reports:

[Begin videotape] [Ram] Prior to his arrival at the Knesset, Mr Habib was briefed by a member of the U.S. Embassy staff in Israel who gave him details about the prime minister's speech at the plenum. Mr Habib wanted to know whether there was a consensus in the Knesset regarding Israel's policy in Lebanon. We have learned that, in fact, Philip Habib has not brought with him any real results from his talks in Beirut and Damascus and that he is supposed to ask the Israeli Government for an additional respite for diplomatic activities to try and solve the crisis.

At the entrance of his office, the prime minister told his guest about the Likud convention last night: I planned to speak for 1 hour and I ended up speaking for 2 and 1/2 hours. Mr Begin added: The head of the opposition is waiting for 1 July--he will be surprised. I think that the State Department will also be surprised, the prime minister said. He also said that he had called for a ministerial consultation this evening, presumably to inform them about the meeting with President Reagan's envoy. The meeting lasted 1 and 1/2 hours and was also attended by the foreign minister.

[Begin--in English] Ladies and gentlemen of the press, I would like to welcome again our dear guest, Mr Philip Habib, to our country and to Jerusalem. We held, as you could have seen, a long debate; it lasted more than 1 and 1/2 hours. Mr Habib was kind enough to tell me, as was his intention, about his talks in Beirut and in Damascus. I am very grateful to him. Tomorrow afternoon we shall continue our talk. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for your attention.

[Habib--in English] Thank you, Mr Prime Minister. I don't make a practice of correcting prime ministers. I just want to say that it was not a debate, it was a discussion.

[Begin--in English] Agreed.

[Habib--in English] It's just a word.

[Begin--in English] In Parliament, we are used to debates, especially with my opposition.

[Habib--in English] I think the opportunity that I have had to talk with the prime minister, in connection with the mission which President Reagan asked me to undertake, was useful. We are going to continue tomorrow. The objective which the President asked me to carry out is well known to you. I had the kind of opening discussion with the prime minister which, personally, I found useful. As always, I was grateful for the graciousness with which the prime minister has received me. Thank you.

Gentlemen, really, this is not the time for questions. But, especially I think the prime minister has something he has to do.

[Ram] It has been reported that Mr Habib did not meet PLO representatives in Syria and Lebanon and that the U.S. position as expressed in the meeting with Mr Begin is that the status quo ante must be restored--an identity of positions between Israel and the United States. [end videotape]

Philip Habib will also confer with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir tomorrow.

RADIO CLAIMS SYRIAN MISSILES FIRED FROM AL-BIQA'

TA120513 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] The Phalangists' radio station has reported that the Syrians this morning fired surface-to-air missiles for the first time at Israeli planes that were carrying out a dawn reconnaissance mission over the Al-Biqa' region in Lebanon. According to the station, the missiles missed the planes. However, there has been no confirmation of this report in Israel, and Mikha'el Gurdus, our monitor, notes that in recent days Phalangist spokesmen have disseminated many reports about the reinforcement of the Syrian deployment in Lebanon. These reports have in the end been proved to be baseless.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES SYRIA'S KHADDAM 8 MAY

LD082144 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 8 May 81

[Excerpt] This evening the brother leader received Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who conveyed to the brother leader a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad within the context of the continuing contacts between the Jamahiriyah and Syria concerning the provocations against the Arab nation by the Zionist enemy, backed by U.S. imperialism. Brother 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam acquainted the leader of the revolution with the latest developments in the Lebanese arena and with matters concerning the Arab issues.

JANA CLAIMS LIBYAN INFLUENCE ON FRENCH ELECTION

LD111032 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] The results of the French elections which toppled Giscard d'Estaing confirm a number of facts. The influence of the Great 1 September Revolution on the French election is a continuation of its powerful and steady influence on the course of serious international events. The leader of the revolution, interviewed by the French Channel 1 on 21 January 1981, called on the French people not to elect Valery Giscard d'Estaing because he harmed France's prestige and what was achieved by De Gaulle and Pompidou. The brother leader, interviewed by AFP, uncovered the truth about the French policy pursued by Giscard d'Estaing and the harm it had on the French people. In this interview the brother leader said: "Since d'Estaing took the helm in France, French policy has adopted a very backward colonialist policy, a matter noticed by the French and by the whole world." The leader went on to say: "If France is concerned about building fruitful relations with the peoples, the Arab nation and Africa, then Giscard d'Estaing has proved that he is unable to realize this."

The downfall of Giscard d'Estaing confirms the continuing world influence of the 1 September Revolution. Before Giscard d'Estaing the influence of the Jamahiriyah was great in the downfall of Jimmy Carter. The brother leader of the revolution, interviewed by NEWSWEEK, called on the American people not to reelect Carter because of his hostile actions against the Arab nation and his role in signing the Camp David agreement. Carter was toppled when most observers expected him to win.

Before Giscard d'Estaing and Carter, the 1 September Revolution influenced the overthrow of Haile Selassie, who owned Ethiopia and all that was in it and who turned it into an American-Zionist base. The role of the 1 September Revolution in the overthrow of Emperor Haile Selassie is confirmed by the whole world. The shah of Iran was overthrown by the Iranian people in a sweeping popular revolution. When asked by British television about those who were behind his overthrow, he said that the hero of the action was Al-Qadhdhafi. The 1 September Revolution was the sole voice and the sole factor, in addition to the voice and effect of the Iranian people, which attacked the shah and led to his overthrow. Leopold Sedar Senghor "fell, collapsed, and the Senegalese people got rid of his authority and his agency." The 1 September Revolution was the basis for his overthrow.

Today Giscard d'Estaing, in whose hand Senghor was an instrument in Africa, fell. The colonialists and capitalists and their agents continue to fall. Today, Giscard d'Estaing fell, the rest will follow.

OFFICIAL TELLS ENVOYS OF MOROCCAN EXPANSIONISM

LD091614 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 May 81

[Text] The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison this morning met with the African ambassadors accredited to Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Discussions during the meeting covered the current developments on the African Continent and the Moroccan regime's role in disturbing the peace and stability of the continent.

In this regard, the brother secretary of the Foreign Liaison Bureau warned about the role being played by the ruling regime in Morocco and its expansionist policy. He said that the regime is launching a political campaign to convince other countries that there are problems and instability in Africa, claiming that the Jamahiriyah and Algeria are behind it.

The secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison added that the policy of the ruling regime in Morocco is unprincipled and aims at fostering instability in Africa. It pursues a policy which had been condemned by the OAU and the United Nations. The latest action taken by the Moroccan regime in this regard was the attempt to overthrow the regime in Mauritania by means of terroristic means, which reveals the true nature of that regime.

He pointed out that the Moroccan regime called for Mauritania's annexation prior to its independence. It now regards the Western Sahara as an area under its domination.

He affirmed the Jamahiriyah's stand on the side of the Saharan people and said that the Polisario is a front fighting for the liberation of the Saharan people from the domination of the Moroccan regime. He pointed out that the Saharan people's right to self-determination was endorsed by the United Nations and the OAU and that the Saharan Government has won recognition by 46 countries, of which 26 are African countries. This proves that the support accorded by the Jamahiriyah and by African and other countries to the Saharan people is based on the resolutions of world organizations.

He said that the king of Morocco is attempting to escape the isolation in which he finds himself, now that the Jamahiriyah has exposed his suspect role and his contacts with the Zionist commanders during the past years. It was he who arranged the visit by the Egyptian ruler to the Zionists and his meeting with the terrorist Begin, which led eventually to the stable David accords, which are in turn contrary to the resolutions of the United Nations, the OAU and the Arab and Islamic summit conferences. He added that it was not strange that the Moroccan king contacted the racist regime in South Africa, because the Moroccan king does not care about principles in his political activity.

The brother secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison added that the Jamahiriyah's stand against the Moroccan regime is a principled one which is upheld by all free men in Africa and the world. He also said that the call made by the commander of the Great 1 September Revolution for the establishment of unity between the Sahara and Mauritania and the creation of an alliance among Mauritania, the Saharan Government, Algeria and the Jamahiriyah has perturbed the Moroccan regime, which sees in this a step directed against the role played by that regime in the service of imperialist interests in Africa, at a time when the United States has provided it with arms to use in threatening the countries neighboring Morocco and in continuing to kill the Saharan people and render them destitute.

In conclusion, he warned that the African ambassadors should realize these facts, adding that we are confident that the Arab people in Morocco are capable of putting an end to these traitorous plots of the Moroccan king against the Arab nation and Africa.

MATERIALS FROM AL-QADHDHAFI MOSCOW VISIT 26-29 APR

For Moscow TASS and PRAVDA reports on the joint communique issued on the 26-29 April visit of Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the Soviet Union, see page H 2 of the 30 April and page H 3 of the 5 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORTs. PRAVDA and Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland versions of Al-Qadhdhafi's 27 April Kremlin dinner speech are found on Page H 2 of the 1 May and H 1 of the 6 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORTs.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON AL-QADHDHAFI'S SFRY VISIT

For a Tripoli JANA report on the joint communique issued on the 29 April-4 May visit by Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the SFRY, see the Yugoslavia section of the 5 May Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

MAURITANIA

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ADOPTS NEW ACTION PROGRAM

LD100734 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 9 May 81

[Excerpt] The Council of Ministers met on 8 May 1981 under the chairmanship of Lt Col Mohammed Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the CMSN and head of state. The council heard the final report about the ministerial committee's work under the chairmanship of the prime minister. After studying the report, the council adopted a program of action defining the government activity for the next few months pending the adoption of the 4-year plan of economic and social development. The program is based on the recent decisions made by the CMSN which reaffirm the determination of the CMSN to lead the country toward democracy, while avoiding disorder and the obstacles of hegemony and expansionism.

The program is based on the following major lines: 1) strengthening of national independence; 2) cleansing the administration; 3) giving momentum to the economy; 4. educating and orientating the popular masses. In order to realize the program, the government will take the following action:

1. On the external level the government will strive to consolidate our national independence by fighting Moroccan expansionism, which is regarded as the main threat to the country at the present time. The government will act at large against hegemony in the region. This political determination meets the profound aspirations of our people.

2. On the internal level the government will strive to protect the prestige of the state by setting up organizations that meet development requirements and work for the good of the people, a matter that necessarily calls for the consolidation of the (?present) structures. In this respect, a new type of relationship should be established between the administration and the people. The administration should look after the interests of the citizens and realize their hopes. The cleansing of the administration will be actively pursued until such time when all the bad aspects affecting our administration are eliminated.

The Mauritanian society, which is now undergoing change, should orientate itself toward the realization of the basic objectives for its sound development, following the guidance of mass organizations such as the National Movement of Voluntary Work, trade unions and the Mauritanian Employers Federation--without, for the time being, any legalization of political parties.

Consequently, a program of civil and political education is going to be presented for all sections of our people in order to prepare all Mauritanians to perform their role in a framework of order, discipline and unity, and to enable the people to participate with a spirit of conscientiousness and responsibility in the democratic life that the CMSN wants to bring about throughout the country.

BRIEFS

AID AGREEMENT--An agreement was signed this morning between Mauritania and the World Center for Food Aid. Under the agreement, the center will give Mauritania 43,310,000 ouguiya for training women and developing kindergartens. [Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 28 Apr 81 AB]

PRC GIVES BOOKS--The PRC ambassador to Mauritania yesterday presented a number of books for the National Library in Nouakchott. This gift is to help strengthen the mutual cooperation and the friendship existing between the peoples of the two countries. [Excerpts] [Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 6 May 81 AB]

TANZANIA

NYERERE CONGRATULATES FRANCOIS MITTERRAND

LD112038 Dar es Salaam in English to Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 11 May 81 EA

[Excerpt] President Nyerere has congratulated the French president-elect, Mr Francois Mitterrand. In the message sent today to Mr Mitterrand, Mwalimu said he was looking forward to working in close and harmonious relations with the new French leader and his government on matters of common interest. He said the clear mandate Mr Mitterrand had received from the French people was an expression of their support for the program on which Mr Mitterrand had campaigned for and of their trust in his leadership.

Mwalimu said Tanzania noted with pleasure the desire expressed in that program to strenthen bonds with those countries of the Third World which are working to free themselves from imperialist domination. The president said he looked forward to cooperate with the French Government, particularly on the peaceful transition to independence for Namibia under the aegis of the United Nations in accordance with Security Council Resolution 435. Mwalimu also said he looked forward to cooperating with the French Government at the United Nations, the EEC, as well as bilaterally on many aspects to overcome the present world economic crisis.

The message said Tanzanians look forward to an era of increasing cooperation on the basis of equality between France and the countries of Africa. Mwalimu said he believed the new international economic order would be mutually beneficial to both developed and developing countries and would strengthen the forces for peace in the world.

The president said he looked forward to meeting Mr Mitterrand and having direct contact with him for a further strengthening and deepening of friendship and cooperation which now so happily exist between the two countries.

UGANDA

NEW GROUP JOINS 'ARMED STRUGGLE' AGAINST OBOTE

AB111644 Paris AFP in English 1634 GMT 11 May 81

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 11 May (AFP)--A Ugandan opposition group seen here as a reactivated version of a political coalition that ruled Uganda immediately after the fall of dictator Idi Amin in 1979, has announced that it has joined the armed struggle against President Milton Obote. The group, calling itself the Uganda National Liberation Front Internal Wing, is a new name on the growing list of opposition groups that have decided to use underground guerrilla attacks to overthrow Mr. Obote, who returned to power after general elections last December.

A spokesman for the group, in a telephone call to AFP today, claimed responsibility for an attack on a police station in the eastern town of Mayenze, near Mbale, on May 4. Four policemen were killed in the attack, he said. [Words indistinct] added that the group had [words indistinct] prisoners in an attack on Mbale Prison at the start of April.

The Uganda National Liberation Front (UNLF), which was formed in the northern Tanzanian town of Moshi shortly before Tanzanian troops and Ugandan exiles ousted Amin in April 1979, was an umbrella movement incorporating the different Ugandan exile and opposition groups. It ruled Uganda until May 1980, when President Godfrey Binaisa was ousted and replaced by a ruling military council. It disappeared from the political scene when the military council decided that political parties would contest the December general elections in their own right and not under the umbrella of the front.

In a communique today, the UNLF Internal Wing expressed the hope that the crisis in Uganda could be solved through peaceful means but it said that this would only be possible if Mr. Obote resigned and all the opposition groups united to agree on a democratic alternative. The anti-Obote opposition which has opted for an armed struggle since February is very frangemented and divided along tribal and political lines.

CAMEROON

YAOUNDE REPORTS ON GOUKOUNI-AHIDJO TALKS

AB082022 Yaounde Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] President Goukouni Oueddei of Chad has left Ngaoundere after a 24-hour visit. During his stay there, he exchanged views with President Ahidjo on the developments in the situation in Chad and on the future relations of cooperation between the two countries. The two leaders have expressed concern over foreign pressure and interference in the external affairs of Chad, which poses a threat to peace and security in that country.

They stressed the need for all the international community, Africa in particular, to join efforts in order to promote conditions favorable for a lasting solution to the situation in Chad within the framework of the Lagos accords. In this connection, they expressed satisfaction over the efforts made so far in this regard.

Both sides have devoted particular attention to the problem of the Chadian refugees in Cameroon. They have agreed on the need for joining efforts in order to mobilize international assistance for the repatriation of the refugees. In this regard, they have stressed the importance of stable relations between the two countries for the settlement of that problem.

They have expressed satisfaction over the drawing up of a program by the [United Nations] High Commission for Refugees. The program includes the provision of the necessary personnel and equipment and the setting up of a tripartite commission composed of the representatives of the high commission, and those of the Cameroonian and Chadian Governments, which will essentially facilitate the repatriation of refugees.

Both parties also expressed their conviction that the good neighbor relations between Cameroon and Chad based on the respect for the principles of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality and noninterference in each other's internal affairs constitute an important contribution to peace, security and cooperation in the subregion. In this regard, the Chadian leader has expressed regret over some acts of extortion and violations of Cameroon's land border and airspace and he pledged his determination to take every measure to avoid the degradation of the good relations between the two brotherly countries.

Before the Chadian leader left Ngaoundere, he made a statement to newsmen over the implementation of the Lagos accords on Chad:

[Begin recording] First of all, I want to recall that the Lagos accords call for the demilitarization of Ndjamena, which we have been doing and I am convinced that within 2 days there will be no more factional troops in Ndjamena, and I am also certain that all forces will be pulled out of Ndjamena before tomorrow and beginning then, there will be no more troops of any faction in Ndjamena.

The Lagos accords also call for the disarming of civilians. We have not done this yet. I am, however, convinced that this will be done within a short time.

The Lagos accords also mention sending a peacekeeping force to Chad. We do not reject the principle and we agree that the peacekeeping force be sent. But I wonder what its role will be. However, if Africa insists upon sending the force, we agree on the principle in advance. We have even suggested the names of a few countries which are to send contingents.

The Lagos accords call for the withdrawal of French troops. They are no longer in Chad.

The accords also call for free elections. If we have not yet held such elections, it is because--as you are aware--the 9 months we were allocated to implement the clauses of the Lagos accords, including the preparations for and the holding of free elections, were spent at war. All in all, I think that we are making good progress toward the full implementation of the Lagos accords. [end recording]

CHAD

GOUKOUNI ASKS PEOPLE'S SUPPORT AGAINST FACTIONS

AB101150 Paris AFP in French 0950 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] Ndjamena, 10 May (AFP)--Mr Goukouni Oueddei, head of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT), has expressed the hope that the Chadian people will give him their support and reject all the other factions, whose rivalries make the country ungovernable.

Goukouni Oueddei, who returned to Ndjamena on Friday after a visit to Ngaoundere, northern Cameroon, where he held talks with Cameroonian President Ahmadou Ahidjo, expressed the view that so long as the people refuse to give him the means of solving the problem of factions, it would be impossible for him to assume his responsibility to change the government to give it a clear sense of direction.

The head of the GUNT, who on Sunday became the de facto president of Chad, within the framework of the Lagos accords, stressed that the leaders of the various factions, with their differences and their control of entire regions, do not make the task easy for him. Thus, the GUNT neither has the force nor the financial means to administer the regions in the face of opposition of these factions, which constitute states within a state. The GUNT is a government in name only, he added.

Finally, Goukouni Oueddei deplored the prolonged absence from Ndjamena of GUNT ministers, which prevents holding meetings and making decisions.

CONGO

SASSOU-NGUESSO PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA

For Belgrade TANJUG reportage on the 11-12 May visit of President Denis Sassou-Nguesso to the SFRY, see the Yugoslavia section of the 12 May Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

PRISONERS REPORTEDLY BEING HELD FOLLOWING PLOT

AB081237 Paris AFP in English 1219 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Yaounde, Cameroon, 8 May (AFP)--More than (?150) political prisoners are being held secretly in the capital of Equatorial Guinea, in the aftermath of an alleged plot against President Teodoro Obiang Nguema, according to an opposition document brought out by travellers. Photocopies of it are circulating in Yaounde, capital of nearby Cameroon.

The document amplifies reports from informed sources here 10 days ago that an unspecified number of arrests were made in Equatorial Guinea beginning April 10, the day of the supposed plot.

Among those arrested, according to the sources and the document, were several former ministers of President Macias Nguema Mbasogo, who was overthrown and executed in 1979, and former high civil servants.

A good number of these men had turned against the bloody dictator and had been imprisoned or exiled, the document said, returning after Lieutenant-Colonel Obiang led the coup against Mr. Macias. It said two of them, former Health Minister Pedro Econg Andeme and former Interior Minister Angel Masie Ntutumu, were very popular in the country.

Observers in Yaounde said it appeared a power struggle was going on in Malabo, the Equatorial Guinean capital, against a background of disagreement over whether the former Spanish colony should tilt more to the Western or the Eastern bloc.

IVORY COAST

SENEGAL'S DIOUF ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

AB081402 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] President Abdou Diouf, the Senegalese head of state, arrived in the head of state's native village, Yamoussoukro, this morning, for a 48-hour visit. He is accompanied by five of his ministers. He was welcomed on arrival by the president of the republic himself. Here is the statement by President Diouf soon after his arrival in Yamoussoukro:

[Begin recording] My first words will be to express respectful gratitude to my elder and father, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, who was extremely friendly and kind in inviting me to undertake this friendly and official visit, to the Ivory Coast, here in Yamoussoukro.

As you know, President Houphouet-Boigny does not belong to the Ivory Coast alone; he belongs to Africa and the world. He is a model and example for us all and the main aim of my visit is to drink of his spring of wisdom, political courage, lucidity and determination.

Secondly, I would like to convey to the great Ivorian people the message of friendship, brotherhood and solidarity from the Senegalese people who would like to maintain very close cooperation ties with the Ivory Coast, the aim of my visit is also to help strengthen and intensify these diverse relations existing between the Ivory Coast and Senegal.

During my visit I intend to hold talks with President Felix Houphouet-Boigny on our bilateral relations, and also on multilateral relations, in particular problems facing the West African Economic Community, ECOWAS, the West African Monetary Union, the OAU, as well as African and international problems because the world is currently undergoing a crisis which is not only economic but political and for which clear ideas and a firm stand based on principles are required; and also for someone like me--who is taking his first steps as the head of the Senegalese state--it is an extremely lucky event for me to meet great statesmen like President Houphouet-Boigny and to take inspiration from the example of his life and also to receive any advice and recommendations he may give me for the running of my country's affairs. [end recording]

It must be stressed that this is Mr Abdou Diouf's first visit to our country since he took over from Leopold Sedar Senghor on 1 January 1981, as head of the Senegalese state.

ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER YAHIA ARRIVES 11 MAY

AB112203 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] The Algerian foreign minister, Mr Ben Yahia, arrived in Abidjan this evening on a 5-day visit. He was welcomed at the airport by his Ivorian counterpart, Mr Simeon Ake. The Algerian foreign minister made the following statement on the microphone of Benjamin Oulai:

[Begin recording] I must first say that I am very happy to be in the Ivory Coast today on an official visit as the Algerian foreign minister, at the invitation of my friend and counterpart, Brother Simeon Ake. I am happy because since our respective independence, strong bonds of friendship have been evolved between the Ivory Coast and Algeria, along with fruitful cooperation on both sides, since the Ivory Coast is the first trade partner of Algeria.

This visit will undoubtedly make it possible for me to know the leaders of the Ivory Coast with whom I will hold talks, to acquaint myself with the Ivorian people, and experience. I will also take the opportunity to examine with my colleague and the officials with whom I will confer means of further strengthening the cooperation between Algeria and the Ivory Coast.

Also, I will take this opportunity to continue the tradition which has existed between our two countries since independence, that is one of permanent consultations on African issues as well as on world major issues. [end recording]

Mr Ben Yahia will be received on 14 May in Yamoussokro by the president of the republic. Before he leaves for Senegal, the Algerian foreign minister will give a press conference at 0830 GMT.

LIBERIA

GOVERNMENT ORDERS LIBYAN PEOPLE'S BUREAU CLOSURE

AB120705 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] The government of the People's Redemption Council, PRC, has ordered the immediate closing of the people's bureau which is serving here as a foreign liaison of Libya. The decision was taken yesterday at a joint cabinet and PRC members meeting held at the capitol in Monrovia. The meeting, chaired by PRC Chairman M Sgt Samuel Doe, did not give any reason for the closure.

Liberia has granted permission to the Government of Libya last March to serve as a foreign liaison. The bureau was headed by Mr Abdul al-Jamir as secretary along with four additional persons as members of the people's committee.

In another move, the government has also asked the USSR Embassy in Monrovia to reduce its staff of 15 to 6. Last March, a Soviet diplomat was declared persona non grata by the PRC government.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education has been ordered not to grant scholarships to Liberians to study in Libya until authorized orders.

Foreign Minister Comments

AB120715 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] Liberia's foreign minister, Gabriel Bacchus Matthews, yesterday said that Liberia should not promote the foreign policy of any country at the expense of its own foreign policy. Speaking to pressmen during a reception held for them at the Foreign Ministry in Monrovia, Minister Matthews said there was the impression within many circles that Liberia was an errand boy of external interests, particularly that of the United States of America.

Minister Matthews said since his appointment, he has been trying to carry out Liberia's policy of nonalignment. He said such a policy will earn Liberia's international and local respect. He stressed that there will be continued deterioration in the respect Liberia has earned abroad if it takes decisions that are not consistent with its foreign policy.

Speaking on the decisions reached at yesterday's joint PRC members meeting on the closure of the Libyan People's Bureau and the reduction of the staff of the Soviet Embassy in Liberia, Minister Matthews said his ministry has been given no official directive on those matters. He, however, said that government was on the verge of (?declaring) a letter to authorize his ministry to take certain actions on the closure of the Libyan People's Bureau and reduction in staff at the USSR Embassy.

On his opinion on the closure of the Libyan People's Bureau, Minister Matthews said the closure of bureau will not be in the very best interest of the Liberian people.

DOE CONGRATULATES FRANCOIS MITTERAND ON ELECTION

AB120905 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 12 May 81

[Text] The Liberian head of state, M Sgt Samuel Kanyon Doe, has sent a message of congratulations to the newly elected president of France, Francois Mitterand, on behalf of the government and people of Liberia. Head of state Doe said he noted with satisfaction and particular significance the historic ties between our two countries, adding we are confident that Franco-Liberian relations will continue to grow from strength to strength. He said at a time when the world [word indistinct] on the brink of economic uncertainties, the Third World countries are looking towards the industrialized nations to help them in the development of the individual economies. He hoped that even a cordial and harmonious atmosphere will continue to characterize relations between Liberia and France.

MALI

MOUSSA TRAORE SEES SDAR FOREIGN MINISTER

AB100900 Paris AFP in French 0813 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] Bamako, 10 May (AFP)--Gen Moussa Traore, president of the Republic of Mali, on Saturday received Mr Ibrahim Hakim, minister of foreign affairs of the SDAR, who gave him a message from Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario Front.

According to a communique, the two men discussed the evolution of the situation in Western Sahara, in the political and military spheres, and the reassertion of Mali's position, which is unequivocal and unambiguous as far as the right of self-determination of the Saharan people are concerned.

Mr Hakim said at the end of the meeting that the Malian people, their president and their government have always supported just causes. He expressed satisfaction with the state of relations between the two countries, characterized by their brotherhood and their sincerity. Mali and Western Sahara are neighbors and their peoples have a common destiny, he added.

While expressing his confidence in the consolidation of the gains of the SDAR during the forthcoming OAU summit, the Saharan leader asserted: We are convinced that in Nairobi, Africa will bar the way to expansionism and to Morocco's policy of disregard for the OAU Charter which it has adopted since it began attacking Western Sahara.

TRAORE RECEIVES MOROCCAN ENVOY, HASSAN MESSAGE

AB111811 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] The secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM] and president of the republic, Gen Moussa Traore, received Mr Mahjoubi Aherdan, Moroccan minister of state for posts and telecommunications, in audience this morning at 0900. Mr Mahjoubi Aherdan was bearing a message from His Majesty King Hassan II to President Moussa Traore. The dangers of destabilization, which threatens the African Continent, foreign interventions and the strengthening of bilateral cooperation between our two countries were at the center of discussions which took place in the presence of Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation.

The Moroccan minister extended constant friendship and fraternal greetings from King Hassan II to the head of state. President Moussa Traore also asked the Moroccan envoy to send his sincere gratitude, his fraternal greetings and the Malian people's friendship to the Moroccan people.

After the audience with the head of state, the Moroccan envoy answered questions from Yiriba Sanake:

[Begin recording] [Mahjoubi] I delivered a message and, of course, I have expatiated on this message in which I clearly explained Morocco's concern in the face of events happening in our region, especially in the face of several [instances of] external interference which tend to destabilize the whole region. I can say that I found the president quite understanding and I thank him for that. I am leaving with the certitude that I have accomplished my mission in the best possible manner. I thank General Traore, president of the republic. I thank my Malian brothers for the warm reception given me since my arrival here yesterday, and I am leaving with the certitude that the future which opens for all of us will be better than the present.

[Question] Mr Minister, for some time now, relations between Morocco and Mali seem to be at a standstill. Can we hope for a greater dynamization of our relations?

[Answer] If I have come here, it is to dynamize them and I can assure you that I will do everything to make it a reality.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR NOUAKCHOTT 11 MAY

AB111628 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, left Bamako today for Nouakchott. He is bearing a message from President Moussa Traore to the Mauritanian head of state, President Khouna Haydala.

FORMER EDUCATION MINISTER RESIGNS FROM PARTY POSTS

AB082043 Paris AFP in French 1846 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Bamako, 8 May (AFP)--Col Youssouf Traore has resigned as a member of the National Council and Central Executive Bureau of the Democratic Union of Malian People (UDPM), it was announced in Bamako on Thursday. This resignation was announced at the weekly meeting of the Central Executive Bureau which was held under the chairmanship of General Moussa Traore, who is its general secretary and president of the Republic of Mali.

The resignation of Col Youssouf Traore, who was the information and cultural secretary of the party, seems to be the logical response to the rejection of a study entitled "Reflections on School Programs [word indistinct]" carried out by the party's commission which he headed, and the dissolution of that commission decided last week by the leadership of the UDPM, according to observers in the Malian capital.

Commissioner in charge of conflicts [as received] in the former Military Committee for National Liberation which staged the November 1968 coup, Col Youssouf Traore was minister of information and later minister of education.

NIGERIA

REPORTS ON RESULTS OF NLC CALL FOR STRIKE

AB111133 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Most Nigerian workers reported for duty today in their various offices in spite of the call on them by the Nigeria Labor Congress, NLC, to begin a general strike today. Many workers' unions indicated their intention not to take part in the NLC strike. Among these are the Agricultural and Allied Workers' Union of Nigeria, the senior staff association of statutory corporations and government-owned companies, Radio, Television and Theatre Workers' Union and the [National] Union of Banks, Insurance and Financial Institutions' Employees.

The Agricultural and Allied Workers' Union of Nigeria said it would not support the action because the NLC's refusal to negotiate with federal authorities was unethical and against the norms of industrial relations' practice. It asked members of the union to report for normal duty today. The Bendel State branch of the Civil Service Union also gave a similar reply to its members. In its reaction the Radio, Television and Theater Workers' Union called on its members to ensure that radio and television stations operate today to keep all workers and the general public abreast with the situation in the country.

And in a resolution the Executive Council of the Union of Banks, Insurance and Financial Institutions' Employees decided not to support the general strike and called on the NLC to use the opportunity offered by the senate committee to discuss the minimum wage issue of the congress really considered its 300 naira demands negotiable.

The Metallic and Nonmetallic Mines Workers' Union in Plateau State described the call for the general industrial action as unrealistic and unpatriotic. And from Kaduna State comes a report that two more trade unions have [word indistinct] of the NLC's action. They are the state branch of the National Union of Hotels and Personnel Service Workers and the Union of Local Government Employees. Others, which have taken a similar stand, include the petroleum and natural gas senior staff association, the national body of the Civil Service Union, the National Union of Food, Beverage and Tobacco Employees.

NLC Leader Criticizes Media

AB111824 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] Mass media organizations in the country have been criticized by the Nigeria Labor Congress for their role in the industrial action called for today. The national president of the congress, Alhaji Hassan Sunmonu, told the Voice of Nigeria correspondent that the reported collapse of the strike action, which was said to be total in some areas and partial in others, was the figment of imagination by the government-controlled mass media.

In a similar reaction, the general secretary of the National Union of Food, (?Beverage) and Tobacco Employees, Mr F.K. Oyebanjo, denied yesterday's statement that the president of his union disassociated it from the strike action.

NLC Report

AB111943 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 May 81

[Excerpt] Normal [word indistinct] activities have been going on today in most states of the federation in spite of the industrial action by some affiliates of the Nigeria Labor Congress. Reports from all over the country, however, indicate, that some essential services are partially disrupted, although effects minimal. The services affected are those of the Posts and Telecommunications [P and T] Department, the National Electric Power Authority [NEPA], and the airways and the railways. The worst hit are the post offices where telephone services are being provided by the senior staff in some states.

In Sokoto State, our correspondent reports that members of two labor movements are on strike. These are the NEPA and the P and T. The situation in Benue State, [words indistinct] all the members of the [name indistinct] workers union are on strike. And in Kaduna State, only a handful of workers of the NEPA, and the P and T in the state capital responded to the call. The senior staff were seen attending the public.

[Words indistinct] of the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, have also joined the strike. Our staff correspondent reports that as early as 0800 in the morning, members of the union were seen then running round the offices, forcing members out of work. The same situation prevailed at the College of Arts and Science, Zaria.

In Lagos, many workers reported late as drivers of some commercial vehicles and buses of the state transport corporation joined in the strike. As a result, traffic was light in the federal capital.

At the time of this report, the central post office was closed, while there was a (?light-out) at the National Assembly. And in neighboring Oyo State, parts in Ibadan, the capital, went dry [as heard] as early as 0600 this morning while post offices were closed.

MOVE UNDERWAY TO SETTLE KADUNA SITUATION

AB112111 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] A new move is being made by three state legislatures to bring about a peaceful settlement to the political stalemate in Kaduna State. The five-man delegation from Bendel, Ogun and Oyo legislatures today in Kaduna said the meeting [words indistinct] of the Kaduna State House of Assembly led by the speaker, Alhaji Mama Abubakar Dan Musa.

It [words indistinct] at a meeting recently in Kaduna, it was decided that a meeting of representatives of the state and national legislatures decide in Benin on the 15th and 16th of this month to find a solution to the stalemate. But at today's meeting, which lasted more than 2 hours, it was agreed that the Kaduna State House of Assembly should not attend the Benin meeting, since it is the party to the conflict. The meeting also agreed that every legislator must defend the constitution and that while the impeachment proceedings continue, sufficient room should be made by the house for a compromise between it and the executive. The outcome of the Benin meeting is to be sent to the Kaduna State legislature for discussion which might lead to an eventual settlement of the conflict. The meeting has decided that the conflict should be settled in Kaduna.

Addressing the meeting earlier, Alhaji Abubakar Dan Musa said it was difficult to ask members of the house to withdraw the impeachment notice on Governor Balarabe Musa. He added that the notice was supported by various [word indistinct] of the members who signed the document. According to the speaker, the people of the state had not been in favor with a change of government. This was because there had not been provisions for a lasting [words indistinct] basic amenities such as water, electricity and health centers. Alhaji Abubakar Dan Musa told the delegation that there would be no violence or breakdown of law and order in the state if the governor was removed. Contrary to speculations in certain quarters, he said, there was a difference between the 1962 crisis in the defunct western region which culminated in the military intervention and the current situation in Kaduna State. The speaker stated that whereas the 1962 crisis was caused by intraparty crisis, the Kaduna situation was a constitutional conflict between the legislature and the executive. He made it clear that the house was not being influenced from any quarters, ending that even the Federal Government was not allowed to intervene.

Alhaji Abubakar Dan Musa then defended his earlier statement that he did not care if asked to (?quit, perhaps) as a result of the governor's impeachment. He said his pronouncement was in response to claims by some political leaders that there would be violence and rioting if the governor was impeached. He told the delegation that his pronouncement did not in any way mean that the (?supervision) of the country was not paramount in his mind. Alhaji Abubakar said he would agree to die honorably than close his eyes to what he called a breach of the constitution by an individual. [sentence as heard]

[Words indistinct] the deputy speaker of the Ogun State House of Assembly, Chief Idowu, said the delegation was in Kaduna as legislators and not as members of a political party. He added as legislators, we must defend our integrity. Chief Idowu thanked the Kaduna State House of Assembly for leaving its doors open for negotiation, while at the same time defending its constitutional rights. He then gave an assurance that all possible ways will be explored constitutionally to bring about peace within the two arms of the government.

One of the delegates from the Oyo State House of Assembly, Mr (Olajun Koyo Kissuade), said he did not support the plan by the United Party [as heard] of Nigeria's Chief Awolowo to send 12 lawyers to defend Governor Balarabe Musa. He said Chief Awolowo was only playing politics by making such a statement.

KANO POLICE ALERTED TO SUBVERSIVES' TRAINING BASE

AB081759 Kaduna Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] The police in Kano says it has been alerted on a point in Tudun Wada-Dan Kande local government area being used as a training base for subversive activity. The deputy commissioner of police, Mr Apapa, told the newsmen in the state capital today that investigations were going on. He, however, announced that 12 persons, who dressed in (?paramilitary) dresses, have been arrested at a gathering of supporters of the People's Redemption Party, PRP. Some weapons were discovered in the vehicles of the men when searched. All the arrested persons have been released and bailed and will soon appear in court.

SENEGAL

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM IVORY COAST; NO COMMUNIQUE

AB101430 Paris AFP in English 1427 GMT 10 May 81

[Text] Dakar, May 10 (AFP)--President of Senegal Abdou Diouf returned here today from a three-day visit to Ivory Coast as the guest of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

No communique was issued after the two men's eight hours of private talks, which were followed up by several meetings at ministerial level.

A Senegalese source said that the two sides decided to convene in mid-July a joint Senegalese-Ivorian commission which has not met for two years, and to examine in detail means of increasing trade between the two countries.

Ivory Coast also confirmed that it would put up some of the capital for a Senegalese chemical industry project calling for an estimated investment of 60,000 million francs CFA (more than 250 million dollars), the source added.

Senegal for its part appeared prepared to increase its purchases of Ivorian wood.

The two sides also discussed harmonising their customs legislation and industrial policies in the context of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Senegalese source said.

The two men discussed security at length, notably in the light of Libyan foreign policy and recent events relating to the Western Sahara, be it the recent abortive coup in Mauritania or the continued war between Morocco and the Polisario Front, a source added.

The two heads of state expressed worry over the security in the sub-region of West Africa, the source said. They reportedly believed that states in the region should demonstrate the greatest vigilance because of mercenary recruiting activity for the benefit of an Arab nation.

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL, AMITY GROUP CONGRATULATE MITTERRAND

LD111650 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 11 May 81 EA

[Text] The president of the republic, Samora Machel, has sent a message of congratulations to Francois Mitterrand on his victory in the presidential elections of the French Republic.

In expressing our desire for the strengthening of our friendly relations of cooperation between our two peoples and countries, I wish you successes in the post to which the French people have elected you, and long life and good health, the Mozambique head of state said in his message.

The France-Mozambique Friendship Association has welcomed Francois Mitterrand's election to the post of the president of the French republic. In a press communique issued today, the members of the association expresed their hope that henceforth, with Mitterrand's victory, France will ally itself with the peoples of Namibia and South Africa who are struggling for their liberation from the apartheid regime. The association also expressed the hope that France will act in accordance with the principles of peace, liberty and economic development of the southern African peoples. It also expressed the hope that with this victory a new era will dawn in the relations between France and Mozambique.

SOUTH AFRICA

PRIME MINISTER REFUSES COMMENT ON FRENCH ELECTION

LD112016 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 11 May 81

[Text] The Socialist victory in the French presidential election will threaten a wide range of relations with South Africa, including military, nuclear, economic and the South-West African issue. This is the view of the director of the South African Institute for Strategic Studies of the University of Pretoria, Dr Mike (Hoath). He says the Socialist victory could place France's position as one of the Western five contact governments on South-West Africa in doubt. Dr (Hoath) says France might either leave the group or agitate for a more hardline attitude toward South Africa. He says if the new French Government nationalizes the Dissault Aviation Company in terms of its program, the company would terminate its license to South Africa to manufacture Mirage jet aircraft. Dr (Hoath) says, however, it is unlikely that France will end the contract to build the Koeberg nuclear power station in the Cape province as this will harm the French (?order). The contract could be jeopardized, though, if the company were nationalized.

The South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, said he did not want to comment on the choice of the French electorate. He said it was not South Africa's task to determine who should be elected as leaders of other countries, just as it was not the task of other countries to try to elect leaders for South Africa.

Likewise, the foreign minister, Mr Roelof Botha, said he preferred not to comment at this stage.

In Cape Town the leader of the official opposition in South Africa, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert of the Progressive Federal Party, said that the Socialist victory in France might bring changes in French foreign policy, particularly as far as South Africa was concerned. He said the French election could also hold implications for the South-West African settlement issue.

MINISTER THREATENS ANC MEMBERS IN ZIMBABWE

LD081328 Johannesburg International Service in English 1300 GMT 8 May 81

[Text] Prince Albert--The South African minister of police, Mr Louis Le Grange, said he is aware of the presence of terrorists of the ANC in Zimbabwe. He said South Africa is not prepared to cooperate with a country that harbors anti-South African terrorists. South Africa will attack and exterminate such terrorist forces as it did in Maputo.

Zimbabwean Minister Responds

LD092306 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 9 May 81

[Excerpts] The home affairs minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Richard Hove, has said in Salisbury that any South African attack on terrorist bases in Zimbabwe could have very serious implications which South Africa should avoid. Mr Hove was commenting on a statement made at Prince Albert yesterday by the South African minister of police, Mr Le Grange, that South Africa was not prepared to cooperate with a country that gave refuge to terrorists who operated against South Africa. Mr Hove categorically denied that there were any ANC bases in Zimbabwe. He told a news conference in Salisbury that if official permission had been given to the banned South African organization to open offices in Zimbabwe then it would (?evident). He said that although Zimbabwe had not given South Africa the slightest pretext for hostile deeds, it remained committed to its humanitarian duty to receive and care for refugees fleeing from the inhumane policies of the South African Government. Mr Hove said Zimbabwe had a duty to support, politically and otherwise, the people of South Africa who were struggling to liberate their country. Such support was given through the United Nations, the OAU and other internal agencies.

Prime Minister Botha Comments

LD121012 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 May 81 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, has again warned Zimbabwe that South Africa cannot allow neighboring countries to be used as springboards for terrorist action against her. He was replying to a question at a news conference for foreign correspondents in Pretoria. The question was put after the recent warning by the minister of police, Mr Le Grange, that South Africa would hit back hard against any country harboring terrorist forces. Mr Botha said his opinion was that the opening of offices by the banned African National Congress in Zimbabwe was the start of action which could lead to terrorists using Zimbabwe as a springboard for operations against South Africa. If this should happen, South Africa would have to deal with it in an appropriate manner, he said. Referring to the call by the Zimbabwean prime minister, Mr Mugabe, for his country to be prepared to defend itself against an invasion from South Africa, Mr Botha said it was a good thing that a prime minister wanted to defend his country but he did not know who wanted to invade Zimbabwe. Mr Mugabe had nothing to fear from South Africa if he behaved in a decent way.

GENERAL EXPRESSES VIEWS ON WAR IN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA

LD092250 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 9 May 81

[Excerpt] The terrorist force in the north of South-West Africa is no longer as hardened as before. This is the view of the South African chief of army staff personnel, Maj Gen (J. Fourie). He said terrorists shot or captured in the operational area were often no older than 15 or 16. Speaking at (Uppington) in the Cape Province, General (Fourie) said South Africa wanted a national defense force. The current war was not only for the soldier in uniform, but it was a war affecting everyone in the country. He said South Africa was fighting in South-West Africa to preserve democracy inside South Africa in the long run, and its forces would remain in South-West Africa until a just and fair government has been established there.